SPECIAL EXTRA

The Irish Times.

VOL. LVIII. NO.—18,385. DUBLIN, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths (which in all cases must be authenticated) not exceeding 3 lines, 2/6 each insertion; 4 or more lines, 8d. per line. Notices that have appeared in this paper will be repeated in the Weekly Irish Times at half the foregoing rates. Post Office Orders payable to Irish Times, Limited.

BIRTHS.

EVANS—February 19, 1916, at Hillside, Greystones, to Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Evans, a daughter.

KING—February 25, 1916, at Castle House, Rathdrum, to Mr. and Mrs. John King, a son.

O'HAGAN—February 22, 1916, at "La Punta," Callao, Peru, South America, the wife of Hugh Wilfrid O'Hagan (Assistant Manager, Great Central Railway, Peru), a daughter. (By cable.)

MARRIAGE.

YEATES and BOLTON—February 23, 1916, at Eccles, Engineer-Lieutenant Arthur Cyril Yeates, R.N., son of the late A. M. Yeates and Mrs. Yeates, Ard, Glenageary Hill, Kingstown, to Catherine Nicol, second daughter of Mr. John Bolton, Gatesgarth, Eccles.

DEATHS.

COLLINS—February 25, 1916, at St. John's, Newtownpark avenue, Blackrock, Henry, aged 84, Indian Mutiny veteran, 87th (Royal Irish Fusiliers). Military funeral to Dean's Grange to-morrow (Monday) morning, at 10 o'clock.

CRAIG—February 17, 1916, at 36 High street, Oxford, Sophie, wife of Edwin Stewart Craig, M.A., Assistant Registrar of the University of Oxford, and eldest daughter of the late George Gough Gubbins, of Somerville, Co. Limerick.

FETHERSTONHAUGH—February 26, 1916, at her residence, Carrick, Mullingar, Frances Constance, only daughter of William Reynolds, Esq., J.P., of Woodpark, Milltown, County Dublin, and widow of the late William Fetherstonhaugh, of Carrick, Mullingar. Funeral private. R.I.P.

GILLESPIE—February 24, 1916, at Wilson's Hospital, Multyfarnham, Rebecca, aged 68 years. For 25 years connected with the Hospital.

HARVEY—February 25, 1916, at Clonoriol, Strandtown, Belfast, Annie Natterville, daughter of the late James Thompson Harvey.

SMITH—February 24, 1916, at Los Angeles, California, Robert James Smith, beloved husband of Edith Primet Smith (nee Queenie Weakes), late of 1st and 21st Companies, Boys' Brigade, Dublin. Rev. 21, 4, and 7.

STEVENSON—February 25, 1916, John Wilson, infant son of Lance-Corporal John W. Stevenson, Army Ordnance Corps (late G.P.O., Dublin), and of Eva M. Stevenson, 101 Connaught street, Dublin, aged 13 months. Funeral private.

THORNTON—February 22, 1916, at Oakengates, Salop, Richard G. C. Thornton, M.D., second son of the late William Thornton, of Cork, and grandson of Richard G. Campion, of Bushy Park, Co. Cork.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

SHAW—Killed in action in France on February 23, 1916, Second Lieutenant Rowan Shaw, 5th Cheshire Regiment, and of Ipoh, F.M.S., aged 31 years, eldest son of the late James J. Shaw, K.C., Recorder of Belfast.

ANNOUNCEMENTS received late for insertion in this Column will be found on Page 4.

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TUITIONS, ETC.

THE STUDENTS' PAGE OF THE WEEKLY IRISH TIMES
This week contains A SPECIAL ARTICLE ON THE ROYAL NAVY AS A CAREER.

HOUSES TO LET.

AUCTIONS, Valuations, Inventories, Houses, Furnished, Unfurnished, Let, Sold.—Frum. 21 Dawson st. T

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ROYAL VICTORIA EYE AND EAR HOSPITAL.—A Group Photograph of the Nursing Staff appears in the "WEEKLY IRISH TIMES" to-day.

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OUTCASTS OF EUROPE.

SWISS JOURNAL ON GERMANY'S PUNISHMENT.

The *Gazette de Lausanne* publishes information received from Belgium according to which the most remarkable feature of life in that unhappy country is the "profound, ineradicable, frightful hatred which the whole Belgian population feels against the Germans."

"This detestation," continues the writer, "will continue after the war, and after the resurrection of the kingdom of Belgium, which to-day is more certain than ever, many years will pass by before any German will be able to penetrate into Belgium without exposing himself to the most serious risks. The Germans have conducted the war in such a way that they have drawn upon themselves general execration. Once peace is signed an impassable wall will be erected between the Central Empires and the remaining belligerent countries. The Allies will draw a kind of quarantine cordon round Germany to keep out not only the Germans themselves, but all German products.

"Even if Germany were victorious this continued aversion of the Allies and of many neutrals, which will be evident in all spheres—religious, commercial, financial, political alike—would constitute for Germany an irreparable disaster for which no indemnity could possibly compensate her. After the war the Germans will be regarded as the lepers of Europe; no one among the Allies will want to have any kind of contact with them. This is what the Germans have reaped by violating the great principles of justice and humanity; the rulers of Germany will learn to their cost that Nemesis awaits them, and that one cannot place oneself outside the rules of common morality with impunity.

"The Belgians in the occupied territory maintain their invincible courage, their tenacious resistance to German oppression, and their unshaken confidence in the future of their country. The soul of Belgium is unconquered and unconquerable. The Germans have inflicted upon the whole country the whole weight of their heavy and atrocious yoke, but their reign of terrorism has not caused a single Belgian to acquiesce in German domination, which inspires more disgust than ever."

THE WAR WEEK BY WEEK.

A CRITICAL REVIEW.

(I.)

THE ATTACK ON VERDUN.

The attack by the German Fifth Army in France, commanded by the Crown Prince, on the northern front of the Verdun salient, which came to a stop on Thursday morning, has since been resumed with the utmost intensity and with increased success. Its first phase began on Monday evening, and continued until Thursday morning. At its outset the French positions on the front of attack extended, at an average distance of about eight miles from Verdun, from west to east on this alignment—from a point in advance of the village of Brabant-sur-Meuse to a point in advance of the village of Haumont; thence through the Bois des Caures, north of the village of Beaumont, and through the Herbe Bois, north-east of Beaumont, to a point in advance of the village of Orne on the road to Azannes. The *terrain* is an intricate one of round, wooded hills, through which the Meuse and the roads to Verdun wind their way. The enemy appear to have contemplated an attack, not only on this front, but also on a front of equal length as far to the east as Etain, and on a similarly extended front on the left bank of the Meuse in the Argonne. The French *barrage* fire, however, kept down the attack in these sectors, and the actual infantry assault of the enemy was finally launched only on the six-mile front between Brabant-sur-Meuse and Orne, illustrated in the accompanying sketch map. By nightfall on Monday the attack, prefaced by an artillery preparation of unprecedented violence, had carried the ground north of



Haumont, which constituted a salient in the French lines and the village itself. Its loss opened up the way down the valley between it and Beaumont, and the assault, forcing its way on Tuesday in desperate fighting through the Bois des Caures, was not checked until it had reached the outskirts of Beaumont village. By this time the force holding Brabant-sur-Meuse, whose communications were threatened from Haumont, was in a somewhat precarious position, and under cover of night it was withdrawn, the operation being facilitated by French counter-attacks from Beaumont. The course of events on Wednesday is not yet so clear as those of the preceding days. But on this day, while the French centre at Beaumont held firm, the wings were heavily pressed on the left from Haumont, and on the right from the Herbe Bois, which passed into German hands during the day. By Thursday morning, while the centre at Beaumont was still maintained, the French left wing had been withdrawn behind the village of Samogneux, a little more than a mile south-east up the river from Brabant-sur-Meuse, and the right had been withdrawn behind Orne. Against this French line thus adjusted, though the artillery duel was still intense, no infantry assault, apparently, was renewed until Friday. Up to this point the net result of the German attack had been a gain of ground, on a front of some six miles, of an average depth of about two miles. The enemy had captured something over three thousand prisoners, and what they describe as a considerable amount of *matériel*, which, curiously enough, in view of the depth of this penetration, does not appear to include any field guns. The country intervening between this front of attack and the fortress of Verdun is described as "an epitome in the art of fortification." Against this fortified zone the attack was renewed on Friday. There is no room for doubt now that the German effort is intended to effect a decisive breach in the French front at the crucial point of Verdun. Its scale appears to justify such an assumption. It was preceded by a prodigious concentration of artillery, drawn from the *dépôts* throughout Alsace-Lorraine; and there are employed on it very large masses of infantry from no fewer than seven Army Corps. The latest news of the development of this very formidable attack is brief, but serious. In the course of Friday's fighting the enemy claim an increase in their number of prisoners from three to ten thousand. The French centre at Beaumont has given way, and yesterday's Berlin *communiqué* reports the storming of Douaumont, two or three miles to the south. Douaumont, five miles from Verdun, is the north-eastern fort of the outer fortress ring. A breach has thus been effected in the defences of the great French barrier fortress.

(II.)

THE ADVANCE IN ARMENIA.

News of the Russian advance in Armenia since the fall of Erzerum has been extremely scanty. The latest *communiqués* issued by the Headquarters Staff of the Army of the Caucasus merely record the fact that "the pursuit continues," without affording us any geographical definition of its progress. The Turkish forces were split into three isolated parts, which retreated respectively north-west, west, and south-west from Erzerum. Of the progress of the Russian pursuit to the west there is no intelligence whatever. To the north-west the Russians appear to be advancing up the Black Sea port of Trebizond, but we have no knowledge how far they may have advanced towards that objective. Of the pursuit south-west from Erzerum we are somewhat better informed, up to a certain point. In this direction the Russians about a week ago had advanced as far as Mush and Akhlat. The latter town is on the north-western shore of Lake Van, and the considerable town of Mush is sixty miles further west. From these places the two Russian columns were converging on the military station of Bitlis, south-west of Lake Van, but there is no further news of their advance. Bitlis is well on the way across the Taurus range to the Turkish communications down the Tigris with Bagdad, and we shall wait anxiously for news of its occupation as a sign that the Russians have in hand a blow of this nature at the enemy's communications, which would immediately relieve our situation in Mesopotamia. The Russian



advance in this direction, however, lies through a confused mass of high mountains, and we cannot expect it to be prosecuted decisively until the situation in Northern Armenia is made absolutely secure against any threat of Turkish reinforcements coming from the west. The operation of the Russian forces in Persia, which may be regarded as the extreme left wing of the Army of the Caucasus, have meanwhile been advanced an important stage. For several weeks they have been halted between Hamadan and Kermanshah, on the eastern side of the escarpment which divides the plain of Mesopotamia from the plateau of Persia. They are now in active process of forcing this mountain barrier. The Turkish reinforcements which some time ago arrived at Kermanshah were accompanied by a contingent of German sappers, and these scientifically fortified the two passes in the Russian line of advance. Both these passes, affording positions of great natural advantage to the defence, have now been forced by the Russians, who in their pursuit of the enemy have occupied Kermanshah. These Russian operations in Armenia and Persia must already be beginning to make their influence felt in aid of our situation in Mesopotamia, but there is still no indication of any movement by General Lake to the relief of General Townshend at Kut-el-Amara. General Townshend is announced to be sowing vegetable seeds at Kut, but we do not think that any sinister interpretation need be placed upon this horticultural activity.

(III.)

THE CONQUEST OF THE CAMEROONS.

The campaign in the Cameroons has been brought to a definitive close. With the capitulation of the isolated German force which has held out for a year on the mountain position of Mora, in the extreme north of the colony south of Lake Chad, and with the surrender to the Spanish of the remaining German forces who have crossed the frontier in the south and are to be interned in the island of Fernando Po, the conquest of the last but



one of Germany's African Colonies is complete. No coherent record is yet possible of the great series of sweeping movements by British forces from Nigeria, Franco-British forces from the coast, French forces from Equatorial Africa and the French Congo, and Belgian forces from the French Congo, which after an arduous campaign have at last achieved this well-earned success. It is to be hoped that the Government will do justice to the work of the not inconsiderable British forces which have been engaged in this campaign by publishing in full the despatches of Major-General Dobell, not one of which has as yet seen the light.

W.

IRISH RAILWAY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

At a public meeting of the Irish Railway Clerks' Association, held in the Concert Room of the Rotunda on Saturday night, a resolution was unanimously adopted demanding that the war bonus granted to the railway clerks of Great Britain should be extended to similar officials in Ireland; and also protesting against the dismissal of seven, and the reduction in status of two, clerks in the employ of the Dublin and South-Eastern Railway Company.

A RUNNING GAZETTEER.

PLACES MENTIONED IN THE WEEK'S NEWS.

Akhlat.—Akhlat, now in Russian hands, on the northern shores of Lake Van, was a town of great importance in ancient days, and its history may be said to epitomise the vicissitudes of Armenia, for it has been captured and recaptured by Saracens, Greeks, Kurds, Turks, Georgians, Kurds, and Turks again. At one time it was the residence of independent Armenian princes, and the castle of Akhlat, with its massive walls and towers, though now in ruins, testifies to its former strength. Excavators have found a rich hunting ground at Akhlat, in the wonderful rock chambers carved from the red sandstone, and curiously decorated. It comprises two distinct sites of cities, which are inhabited by a handful of people. The seat of administration is in a suburb called Erkizan. The place lies to the south-east of Mush, from which it is distant about 60 miles.

Bitlis.—Bitlis, upon which the Russians are converging from Mush and Akhlat, is an important town of about 30,000 inhabitants, and is capital of the province of the same name. It is about forty miles south-east of Mush, which is already in the hands of the Russians, and ninety miles south-east of Erzerum. It is a military station at an altitude of 4,700 feet. In its passage through Bitlis the "infant" Tigris, joined by another stream, breaks into rapids and cataracts. An old castle stands in the centre of the town, and strong houses with their gardens stretch up the hillsides in picturesque array.

Boesinghe.—Boesinghe lies at the northern end, as St. Eloi at the southern, of the Ypres salient. The two successes lately won by the Germans, although gained at different points, advance one object. They restrict slightly the inconveniently narrow base upon which the projection of the British front beyond Ypres stands. In the fighting between Hooge and St. Eloi the Germans forced their opponents to abandon a low but not unimportant hillock; in the Pilkem-Boesinghe country also the small hills are valuable possessions, and both sides are ready to make considerable sacrifices to win or retain them.

Desenzano.—Desenzano, on Lake Garda, where civilians have been killed by Austrian air raiders, is a beautiful spot, which inspired one of the most exquisite of Tennyson's short poems. Napoleon III. came here more than once in 1859—on the first occasion after Magenta and before Solferino. General Fleury, who was with him then, wrote: "There is no finer sight than those mountains and this blue and quiet water, which seems to be saying to you: 'Why all this destruction? Why so many dead? Come rather to enjoy peacefully my lovely sights and my coolness!'" It must be admitted that nature was not the only attraction of Desenzano at that time, for gunboats had been brought thither by rail for use against Peschiera.

Elbassan.—Elbassan, which the Bulgarians claim to have occupied, probably represents the ancient Scampae, whose name still survives in the neighbouring river Skumbi, as the stream that Cæsar styled the Genusus, and crossed in the civil war, is now called. It holds an important position commanding the entrance to the mountain passes at a point where roads converge from Scutari, Durazzo, Berat, and Ochrida. The town is inhabited chiefly by Ghegs, most of whom earn their livelihood in time of peace by robbery and murder. For some reason the Turks have never penetrated to this part of Albania in great numbers; and storks, the sacred birds of Turkey, are not found here, their place being taken by flocks of geese.

Fernando Po.—The Spanish island of Fernando Po, the destined receptacle of the German fugitives from the Cameroons, was, until African possessions looked up in quite recent times, one of those unconsidered trifles about which nobody worried much. Discovered by the Portuguese navigator whose name it bears in 1471, it was occupied by the Spaniards in 1778, but left derelict in 1782. There was a British settlement in the island from 1827 to 1834, utilised chiefly for observation upon the slave traffic, and Baptist missionaries lingered on until the Spaniards, who came back again in 1844, expelled them in 1858.

Laibach.—Laibach in Carniola, which the Italian airmen have raided, is a place against which Italian patriots with long memories might fairly bear a grudge. Here the reactionary Sovereigns and statesmen of Europe, headed by Metternich, assembled in 1821 to put down the various movements for freedom. They sent for King Ferdinand of Naples, who was carrying on in a dangerously constitutional way. He obtained leave to go from his subjects by taking a solemn oath to maintain the Constitution, but promptly informed the European Powers that this all went for nothing, and gladly obeyed Metternich's repressive orders. The Congress of Laibach also vetoed Greece's aspirations for liberty. "We have accomplished great and good things," said Metternich when it was over.

Madagascar.—Madagascar, the third largest island in the world, and now attracting attention on account of the German poison plot against our French Allies, is one of the most remarkable links with a former geological formation. Its fauna contains several exceptional and ancient forms of life, comprising many species known nowhere else. Even more remote, in point of age, than these are the remains of an immense bird of the ostrich tribe, whose eggs, which have also been found, are the largest known. They measure 12¼ by 9¼ inches. Madagascar is familiar territory to two of France's most famous soldiers. After the annexation of the island in 1896 General Gallieni was appointed first Governor, and his wise rule not only pacified the hostile element in the new colony, but laid the foundations of its present progress and prosperity. The fortifications, which rendered the chief harbours of Madagascar almost impregnable, were constructed under the direction of a colonel of engineers, whose services in this connection gained him the rank of brigadier-general. His name was Joffre.

Mosul.—A telegram has been received by the American diplomatic agency in Cairo from the American Minister in Athens stating that the British families removed from Bagdad are at present at Mosul, all well. They may have to suffer another removal if the Russian advance is prosecuted southward across the Taurus to Mosul. Mosul is 220 miles N.N.W. of Bagdad. It is in the heart of ancient Assyria, on the right bank of the Tigris, and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.)

STOCK EXCHANGE FINANCE.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE DUBLIN DISTILLERS "BOOM."

While the general volume of business on the Dublin Stock Exchange has not improved, further interesting and some important fluctuations have taken place in prices during the past week. The outstanding feature each day during the week has been the excitement in the securities of the Dublin Distillers Co., and a general and important advance has taken place in the market prices of both the shares and the Deb. Stock. This company was obliged to hold large stocks of whiskey as security for the £350,000 4½ p.c. Debs. Stock. War legislation and prices has caused an enormous increase in the market value of whiskey, consequently favourable contingencies have arisen which, if rightly handled by the directors, must bring about a regular revolution in the immediate position and prospects of the company. A week ago the directors issued a circular to the shareholders seeking power to alter or add to the Articles of Association, Nos. 12 and 15, which, if carried, will clearly foreshadow reconstruction of at least the share capital. The extraordinary general meeting of the company has been called for Monday, 28th inst., when it is possible, or likely, the directors will place some interesting facts before the shareholders. That this is anticipated can best be judged by the rapid rise in the price of the securities of the company during the week. The position of the Deb. holders is a very interesting one, and if handled as experts expect the advance that has already taken place in the price will be more than justified. The litigation of a Deb. holder some time ago, acting through the well-known firm of solicitors, Messrs. Fottrell, resulted in much permanent benefit, as it sought and obtained a rectification of the Deed of Trust under which the Debentures were secured. This Deb. holder contended that the Deed should contain the security under which the Deb. holders subscribed. By some mistake the goodwill and undertaking of the three distilleries were not originally vested in the trustees for the Deb. holders. The directors opposed the contention, but the company was defeated, and the Deb. holders have much to be thankful for, as they now have the first charge on everything, including goodwill, and have since aided in every legitimate way to help the company and its shareholders. The big rise in the value of whiskey has very materially increased the potentialities of the concern, and the holders of the share capital, more particularly the Pref. shareholders, which have arrears of dividends of not far short of £5 a share due on their £5 shares. During the week the £5 Ord. shares have risen 2s. 6d. to 7s. 3d., the Pref. from 15s. 7½d. boomed up steadily to 29s., and reacted to 26s., and the Debs. last quoted 65, and recently bid for higher, are now 70 bid. The position of the company and its shareholders is best indicated by the saying "there is a tide in the affairs of man, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." It is also well to understand thoroughly that the altered position is solely the result of recent war legislation, directly and indirectly affecting the market price of whiskey. How long these conditions are likely to obtain necessarily depends on the duration of the war, or further alterations in legislation or otherwise. The position, to say the least of it, is speculative, and probably will be so regarded.

THE GENERAL MARKET.

During the week wider fluctuations took place in Government Funds. Consols and War Loan Stocks advanced considerably at one time, but all the rise has since been lost. The big Government rate of credit was anticipated, no doubt, but the particulars given have led cautious holders to realise in the hope of doing better presently. Beyond strength at the close in Dublin and South Eastern issues the Home Railway market has been quiet and perhaps inclined to dulness, since the dividends for the past half-year have been deducted from market prices. Cautious operators have been sellers rather than buyers, but without much sale pressure. The Bank section has been quiet, with Royals and Ulsters in request at higher prices, and Bank Stock and Munsters and Leinsters on sale. In the Brewery section, a considerable set back has taken place in Guinness Ord. shares, and at the close sellers declared at 25½ x.d., compared with 25¾ cum. div. a week ago, or a fall of ⅞. John Jameson and Son Debs. met with more support, and the price has rallied. Tramways were not much changed; Dublin United issues have been busier. Telegraphs show scarcely any change on balance. Bolands, among Bakery shares, continue to recover from recent depreciated levels. Drapery shares have been strong, without, however, any activity, as the supply has been curtailed unless at higher levels. Henry Street Warehouse shares have been exceptionally flat on trading reports. Textiles remain fairly firm, without any special change in prices. Dunlop issues have been in request, with prices higher, though at the close the demand slackened off a little. A further recovery has been established in Burke Pref. shares. Newspaper shares remain on offer. Alliance Gas shares have been on sale at a decline.

BROOKS, THOMAS AND CO., LTD.

The capital of this well-known Dublin company is £80,000, equally divided between 5 per cent. Pref and Ord. shares of £1 each. The management has been throughout its career in very efficient hands, as can be gleaned by the particulars that the Chairman of the concern is Mr. Richard K. Gamble, J.P., late President of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, and the other directors are Messrs. T. Noel Hutton, Frank H. Warnock, E. Clive Brooks, and Alex. J. Wallace, who occupy the positions really of Managing Directors of the different departments. The company has been most successfully conducted, and for a number of years past has paid 7½ per cent. on the Ord. capital, while the reserves have been steadily built up, and the Reserve Fund now stands at £15,000, besides providing £1,500 for excess profits duty, and carrying forward upwards of £7,000. Ample depreciation has been provided each year for buildings, machinery, etc., and for some years past £1,000 a year has been so provided. The net profits in the past two years have averaged between £9,500 and £10,000. In 1913-14 the profits fell to £5,400 owing to the strikes and labour worries in Dublin, but the company maintained its dividend record quite easily, as the payments to the shareholders were always well within the earning power. There is no Debenture debt, and the latest accounts are the best yet produced. The annual meeting of the shareholders will be held on 1st prox.

COMPONENTS, LIMITED.

Recently circulars were issued by Birmingham brokers to the holders of these shares in Ireland offering to buy all and sundry at prices then current. Very few responded to the invitation, and they have reason to be glad that they acted with caution, as the prices of the various shares of the Company have risen during the week. The 7 per cent. Cumulative Pref. when the circulars were sent out were about 13s.; they now command 18s. The Ord. were 5s. 6d., and now are called 7s. 3d., while the Deferred have risen from 2s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. The Company is now a controlled concern under the Munitions Act, and probably some profit will be made for the shareholders, which the board could not do when in control of the business. It is said the factory is one of the finest in the Kingdom, and splendidly situated, for hundreds of thousands of the shareholders' money has been spent with no result so far as dividends are concerned. It must be a pleasant surprise to find that war work promises better results than the ordinary trading with the huge capital provided originally, and by subsequent reconstructions, and fresh issues of Preferential and Debenture Stocks. "It's an ill wind," etc.

THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

During the earlier part of the week all the talk on the London Stock Exchange was about the Vote of Credit, and whether it indicated the immediate appearance of a New War Loan. It was generally thought that the new loan would have to offer better terms than the last, but that fact is discounted because holders of existing War Loans or Exchequer Bonds will be entitled to the better rate of interest. The markets opened the week quietly, but the tone has been fairly steady, though business has shown no signs of great improvement. Consols have been slightly easier, while the War Loan also fell back a trifle. Home Rails have been quiet, the principal feature being the deduction of the dividends from prices, but otherwise prices have moved but slightly. Americans have been dull, the business having been checked in mid-week by the closing of the New York Exchange for the Washington celebrations. Canadas have been well maintained. South American issues have been steady. A feature was a rise on Friday in Mexican First Pref. to 60, an advance of 5 points on the week. The Rubber share market was quiet during the week, but the strength in the price of rubber had a good effect on Friday, and the tone became good. Many small advances were recorded. In Oil shares there was an improvement in Lagunitos on a circular that the company is to be taken over by a larger firm. In Miscellaneous shares the tone was steady. Mining shares have seen but little change during the week. Among Kaffirs, Springs were in good demand at 43s. 9d. In Copper shares, Tintos have been dull and fell to 61¼.

The Bank return issued on Friday shows an increase of nearly a quarter of a million in the reserve, the stock of bullion being £167,761 higher, while there has been a five figure contraction in the note circulation. The reserve now stands at £40,929,633 against £48,098,660 at this time last year, while the stock of bullion aggregates £54,987,493, against £65,871,540. Market balances with the bank have contracted by 2¾ millions, as the result of payments to the Government, reflected in a gain of over a million in public deposits, and of repayments by the market to the bank, which have lowered other securities by over 1¾ millions. Rest account is £70,261 more. The proportion of the reserve to liabilities has further risen 5 p.c. to 27.5 p.c. The total value of cheques cleared through the clearing banks during the past week was £266,523,000, against £275,520,000 for the previous week, and £234,638,000 for the corresponding week a year ago.

LATEST OFFICIAL PRICES.

Government Funds.	Minimum or latest price.
Consols 2½ p.c. Red. not before 5 April, 1923	58⅞
2¾ p.c. Annuities, Red 5 Jan., 1905, or after	62
2½ p.c. Annuities, Red. 5 Jan., 1905, or after	57
War Loan 3½ p.c. Stock, Red. 1925-28	88
Do. 4½ p.c. Stk., 1925-45	97
Do. Scrip, fully paid	97½
Gt. Land 2¾ p.c. Red. not before 5 Aug., 1921	66¼
Guar. 2¾ p.c. (Irish Land Act, 1903)	65¼
Do. 3 p.c. Irish Land Act, 1903) & 1909	71¼
Local Loans, 3 p.c. Red. after 1 April, 1912	78¼
Transvaal, Govt. 3 p.c. Guar., Red. 1923-53	88
India 3½ p.c., Red. on or after 5 Jan., 1931	80½
Do. 3 p.c., 5 Oct., 1948, or after	69¼
Do. 2½ p.c. 5 Oct., 1926, or after	57

Corporation Stocks and Debentures.	Latest price.
Belfast Corp. 3½ p.c. Red., 1935	85½
Do. City and Dis. Water, 1965, 3½ p.c.	78¼
Do. Harbour 3½ p.c. Red. Cons. Stock	74
Bray Township 3½ p.c. Deb. Red. 1951	65
Cork 3½ p.c. Stock	79
Dublin Corp. 3½ p.c. Red. 1944	79½
Dublin Port and Docks 3½ p.c.	65
Newry Port and Har. Trust 4 p.c. Debs	80
Rathmines and Pembroke 4 p.c. Deb., 1938	80
Do. and Rathgar Township 3½ p.c. Irred.	70

Railway Ordinary Stocks.	
Belfast and County Down	117
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast	57
Cork and Macroom Direct £10 Shares	6½
Dublin and South-Eastern Con. Ord.	9½
Great Northern (Ireland)	96½x.d.
Great Southern and Wes. (Ire.) Orig.	86½x.d.
Midland Great Western of Ire. Consol.	31x.d.
Waterford and Tramore £10 Shares	8¼

Railway Preference Stocks.	
Belfast and Co. Down 4 p.c.	80
Cork, Bandon, and S. Coast, West Cork 4 p.c.	74
Do. do. Kinsale 4 p.c.	74
Do. do. Ilen Valley 4 p.c.	74
Cork and Macroom Direct 5 p.c. (£10 Shares)	10½
Dublin and South-Eastern Con., 4 p.c.	40½
Great Northern (Ireland) Consol. 4 p.c.	80½x.d.
Great Southern and Western (Ire.) 4 p.c.	80x.d.
Midland Great Western of Ireland 5 p.c.	85
Do. do. 4 p.c.	61½

Railway Guaranteed Stocks.	
Belfast and Co. Down 3 p.c.	100
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast 5½ p.c.	108
Do. do. 4 p.c.	88
Fishguard and Rosslare Railways 3½ p.c.	82¼
Great Northern (Ireland) Consol. 4 p.c.	81
Great Southern and Western (Ireland) 4 p.c.	83
London and North-Western Consol. 4 p.c.	95
Midland Gt. West. of Ire. (Rent Charge) 4 p.c.	70

Railway Debenture Stocks.	
Belfast and County Down 4 p.c.	80
Do. do. 3 p.c.	60
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast 4 p.c.	85¼
Do. (Bantry Ext. Railway) 4 p.c.	96¼
Dublin and South-Eastern Con. "A" 4 p.c.	[illegible]
Do. Con. "B" 4 p.c.	58
Great Northern (Ireland) Consol. 4 p.c.	82
Great Southern and West. (Ireland) 4 p.c.	82½
Midland Great Western of Ireland 4 p.c.	72
Do. 4½ p.c.	75¼
Do. do. 4½ p.c.	80
Sligo, Leit. and Northn. Co. 3½ p.c. "A"	75
Do. "B" 4 p.c.	85

Railway Baronial Guaranteed Stocks.		
Stk.	Cork, Bandon, and S. Coast	45

Railway Baronial Guaranteed Shares. (In Perpetuity under Act, 1883.)

10	Athenry and Tuam Ex. 4 p.c.	7½
5	Ballinrobe and Claremorris 5 p.c.	4¼
5	Cavan and Leitrim 5 p.c.	98/9
10	Clogher Valley 8 p.c.	10¾
5	Cork and Muskerry Lt. Rly. 5 p.c.	95
10	Great Southern and Western 4 p.c.	7¾
5	Loughrea and Attymon 5 p.c.	4½
10	South Clare 4 p.c.	7½
5	Timoleague & Courtmacsherry Ex.5 p.c.	4¼
1	West Carbery 5 p.c.	17/9
10	West Clare 4 p.c.	7½

Telegraphs and Telephones.		
1	Marconi Wireless Telegraph Ord.	58/9
1	Do. 7 p.c. Cum. Particpg. Pref.	35/-
1	Do. "Marine"	25/6
1	Do. American	16/6
1	Do. Canadian	6/3
1	Do. Spanish Trust	5/-

Steam and Canal.		
1	Burns Steamship 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	16/-
Stk.	City of Dublin Steampacket	60
Stk.	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	70½
100	Do. 3½ p.c. Mort. Deb.	97
10	Dundalk and Newry	3½
10	Grand Canal Co. Ord.	5½
10	Do. 3 p.c. Pref.	5

Banks.		
Stk.	Bank of England	199½
Stk.	Bank of Ireland	145
12½	Belfast (£2 10/- paid)	10
12½	Do. New (£2 10/- paid)	4¼
20	Hibernian (£5 paid)	4¼
5	Munster and Leinster (£2 paid)	5¼
50	National (£10 paid)	13¾
50	Northern "A" (£10 paid)	23½
50	Do. "B" (£10 paid)	11½
100	Provincial (£12 10/- paid)	23½
20	Do. New (£10 paid)	20¾
50	Royal of Ireland (£10 paid)	12¼
15	Ulster (£2 10/- paid)	10½

Breweries and Distilleries.		
10	Bristol Brew. Georges and Co. Ord.	12½
10	Castlebellingham and Drogheda Ord.	17/6
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	34/-
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Deb. Stock	48
10	Denver United	8/-
10	Do. 8 p.c. Cum. Pref.	60/-
20	Distillers' Co. Ord.	14½
5	Dublin Distillers' Co. Ord.	7/3
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	26/-
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Irred. Debs.	70
10	Guinness (Arthur) Son, and Co. Ord.	25½
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	11½
10	John Jameson and Son 4 p.c. Debs.	6¼

Bakery Companies.		
5	Bolands Ord.	30/-
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	7¼
10	Do. 5 p.c. Debs. (Reg.) Red.	7¼
5	Hughes (Bernard) Ord.	6¼
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	5¼
1	Inglis and Co. Ord.	39/-
1	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	22/6
5	Do. 5 p.c. Irred. Deb. Stock	5
5	Johnston, Mooney, and O'Brien Ord.	6¼
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	5¼
10	Do. 4 p.c. Deb.	7¼

Drapery Companies.		
4	Arnott and Co., Dublin	7
4	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	5
10	Do. 4 p.c. Debs. Red.	7¼
4	Cannock and Co.	5¼
5	Crowe Wilson and Co. Ord.	5¼
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	5¼
1	Cash and Co., Lim. Cum. Pref.	20/6
5	Dwyer and Co., Limited	7¼
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	6¼
1	Henry street Warehouse	13/6
5	Lyons (T.) and Co.	6½
5	M'Birney and Co.	65/-
5	Pim Bros. Ord.	5¼
5	Do. 5½ p.c. Cum. Pref.	5¼
1	Robinson and Cleaver, L.C. 5 p.c. Pref.	13/3
100	Do. 4 p.c. Mort. Deb.	70¼
5	Switzer Ord.	7½
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	5
10	Do. 4 p.c. Deb.	6½
1	Todd Burns and Co. Ord.	19/7½
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	95/-
5	Do. 4½ p.c. Mort. Deb.	80/-
5	Walpole Bros. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	90/-
5	Do. 5 p.c. 1st Mort Deb.	87/6
1	Webb and Co.	11/9
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum Pref.	12¼
10	Denny (H.) and Sons 6 p.c. C Pref.	9¼
1	English Sewing Cotton Ord.	36/3
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	18/9
1	Fine Cotton Spinners	27/3
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	18/9
5	Goulding (W. and H. M.)	6¼
5	Do. 5½ p.c. Cum Pref.	4½
1	Hely's, Ltd., Ord.	17/-
1	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	19/6
1	Kapp and Peterson Ord.	23/9
1	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	21/-
1	Lever Bros. 6 p.c. Cum. "C" Pref.	20/1½
1	Linen Thread Ord.	30/-
1	Do. 6 p.c. Pref.	21/-
10	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	8½
5	Millar and Beatty 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	57/6
5	Matterson (J.) and Son 5½ p.c. C. Pref.	3½
1	Ross and Walpole 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	12/6
5	Thwaites (A. and R.) Ord.	60/-
5	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	60/-
1	Vickers, Ltd., Ord.	35/6
25	York street Flax, Limited	32
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	11½
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Debs.	91
1	White, Tomkins, and Courage Ord.	21/-
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	17/3

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.)

...UNION. AUCTIONS.
J. KEOGH'S SAL[E]
...UESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.
10 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.
...TURE; PIANOFORTES, HANDSOME ...NET, AXMINSTER CARPETING; ...AFE, CORKING MACHINES, ABOUT 35 GA... ...D RUM, &c., &c.
...EXECUTORS OF P. B. CLOWRY, Deceased, AND OTHER ACCOUNTS...
SALE TO COMMENCE AT TWELVE O'CLOCK EACH DAY.
...EW J. KEOGH, AUCTIONEER, 10 LR. ORMOND...
SALES FRIDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1916.
...RENT OF £22 3s. 6d., arising out of Busin[ess] ...137 LOWER BAGGOT STREET.
RETIRING FROM BUSINESS. ...ESTABLISHED FURNITURE WARER[OOMS] ...KNOWN AS ...ARROLL'S, 31 UPPER LIFF[EY]...
TO CAPITALISTS AND OTHERS. ...0 & 111 UPPER DORSET ST...
GERALD TENCH, Solicitor, 18 Bachelor's Walk.
...SITUATED FULLY LICENSED PRE[MISES] ...71 UPPER DORSET STREET.
JAMES L. BURKE, Solicitor, 65 Upper Sackville St...
...EW J. KEOGH, AUCTIONEER, 10 LR. ORM[OND]...
...ARTHUR'S SALE. 3RD MAR[CH]...
...HOTEL, RESTAURANT, AND GOOD SHOP PRO[PERTY] ...L HOUSE, MAIN ST., HO...
...AGEE'S SALE. ...ITHER HOME OR INVESTME[NT] ...ELEY STREE[T]
...D PROFITABLE INVESTMENT. ...R GARDINER ST...
...D HOUSE.—SUIT SMALL CAPITALIS[TS] ...ARRAN QUAY.
W. E. GARLAND, Esq., Solicitor...
...& CO., AUCTIONEERS, 79 TALBOT...
...THIS DAY (SATURD[AY]) ...EXTENSIVE AND IMPORTANT AUCTION ...T-CLASS MODERN FURN[ITURE] ...AND VALUABLE APPOINTMENTS, ...MAHOGANY & WALNUT FURNITURE & AP...
FIVE PER CENT. AU...
...HILL & SON, AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS, 10, 11, 12 Bache[lor's Walk]...
SALE OF VALUA[BLE] PLOT OF L[AND] AT THE HILL, MA... ...LLA VISTA...
JOHN P. CU...
HIGHLY IMPORTANT SA[LE] VALUABLE FEE-SIMPLE PRO[PERTY]...
...D. CARTON,...
JOHN P. CU...
TO BE LET BY PRIV[ATE]...
JOHN P. CU...
...N AND SEED ...TATOES,...
TO BE LET OR ... CROMONA HOUSE,...
...& D. CARTON,...
JOHN P. CU...

THE ENEMY'S POINT OF VIEW.

A WEEK'S EXTRACTS FROM THE GERMAN PRESS.

Major Moraht on Erzerum.

Major Moraht, easily the coolest of the German military critics, contributes an extraordinarily frank article to the *Berliner Tageblatt* on the fall of Erzerum and its political and strategic effects in Persia and Asia Minor. He expects an insurrection to follow among the Armenians, and warns Turkey that Germany is too much interested in her affairs for Constantinople to continue her present policy of holding back all news about Erzerum. In a preliminary survey he pays the following tribute to the work of the Grand Duke:—

"When the Grand Duke became Governor of the Caucasus he provided himself with fresh troops from Siberia, strengthened his forces on the railway lines across the Caucasus, and was successful in driving the Turkish defenders back and back to the frontiers, and then in a south-western direction into Armenian territory. No one can say otherwise than that the Grand Duke conducted his operations ably. At the beginning of February the situation on the Caucasian front became critical for the Turks.

"The Russian conquest of Erzerum is, of course, of importance, both strategically and politically. As the only fortified place in the vast territory of Northern Asia Minor, Erzerum was the base of operations of importance and weight. Turkish reports are still completely wanting. We hope, however, the Turks will not be afraid, when they have had defeats, openly to admit them. Our peoples should be told the truth. Russian reports which preceded the conquest of Erzerum have proved to be true.

"The immediate political result of the Russian victory will be a complete insurrection of Turkish Armenia, where the Russian rouble rolls in peace and in war."

Admitting that there is an operative connection between the Russian operations in Armenia and Persia, and the British in Mesopotamia, Major Moraht criticises the theory that these forces will be able to join hands and so form a wall between the Caucasus and the Persian Gulf.

The Wicked Armed Liner.

Many leading articles in German and Austrian newspapers announce that the inhabitants of the Central Empires are absolutely in accord with the spirit of the Memorandum in which an absolutely ruthless employment of submarines is promised from March 1. The *Neue Freie Presse*, the leading organ of Germanism in Vienna, has published an article in which "the motives and object of the Note" are explained by a writer who is described as being especially well informed on the subject. This writer said:—

"The present step taken by Germany and Austria-Hungary, which is directed solely against enemy steamers armed with guns, is quite a gentle one. It is, as a rule, not difficult to ascertain whether a merchant ship has guns on board which are ready to be fired, and when this is the case the hostile intention of the ship is undeniable. A merchant ship is forbidden by international law to offer opposition to an enemy warship which gives no reason for the assumption that it is exceeding its rights, just as civilians are not permitted to arm themselves against enemy soldiers who march into their country. Formerly merchant ships carried signal-guns; that is nowadays neither customary nor necessary. There is also no need at the present day for a merchant ship to arm itself against pirates. This might be justifiable in certain Chinese waters, but when ships in the Mediterranean, in the North Sea, and in the Atlantic are armed it can only be for illegal purposes. Germany and we intend, by means of our Declaration, to stop this arming of merchant ships . . . ."

American Relations: A Shipowner's Fears.

The Berlin *Lokalanzeiger* publishes an illuminating interview with "the leader of the greatest German shipping companies," very probably Herr Heineken, of the Norddeutscher Lloyd, who is only "comparatively optimistic" regarding the course of the German-American negotiations. The interviewer asked what disadvantages the breaking off of diplomatic relations could have for Germany, and got as answer: "It would scarcely mean any change for us in the military situation, but it would make our political position much worse. The great wealth of America would be completely at the disposal of the Entente, as would also the State munition factories. Further, the feeding of Belgium, which has hitherto been accomplished almost exclusively by America, would create great difficulties for Germany, and the pressure on neutrals would be so increased as to force them into the war."

As for the German shipping which is held up in American ports, and which is "the most valuable part of Germany's mercantile fleet," it would all be seized by America; then, after the war, Germany would not possess the tonnage required for the transport of the most necessary raw materials. This shipping magnate thought that business relationships would soon be re-established with England and America after the war, though he did not doubt for a moment that England's threats of a trade war were serious. But he did not see how England was going to apply her threats. If she stopped Australia from trading with Germany, Australia could not be left to suffocate in her own produce; therefore England would be obliged to take from Australia the things which she used to get from South America, and this would open the South American market to Germany. As for passenger traffic, he admitted it would be a very long time before the German lists reached their old dimensions.

When asked what he thought would be the consequence of the Berlin-Bagdad railway to German shipping trade, he said that neither the railway nor the Danube (the latter for the greater part of the year) would be able to cope with the mass of the required transport.

This interview makes Count Reventlow foam with wrath. He takes each statement in turn and denounces it, and ends by condemning the whole article as damaging to Germany prestige and interests and at bottom completely false.

Why Enemy Aeroplanes Avoid Our Lines.

The military correspondent of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, writing from the Western front, tells the story of a British air machine brought down among the German lines:—

"Here it lies ready for transport. It bears the improbable number 2,105 on the helm. The carrying planes, which have suffered little from the fall, and have been taken off, bear the red, white, and blue cockade, and the same mark is on the side planes. The British, the French, the Russians—they all fly under the same mark, the cockade. But the aeroplane is, nevertheless, of British origin, and so is the crew. The machine is a double-seater, well made; in the opinion of our officer the British are now making the best machines—much better than the French."

Nevertheless, the captured Englishman (his companion had been killed), after having been treated to a glass of wine, was constrained to admit: "Yes, your —— machines, we fear them. If only we had your motors." This leads the correspondent sententiously to observe:—

"By this remark he indeed hit the nail on its head. Superior motors and excellent flyers, superior in boldness—in this consists our superiority over the enemy in the air to-day. If bellicose gentlemen in the British Parliament really believe what Mr. Tennant tells them about the reluctance of German airmen to attack their faith must be strong indeed. A brief journey to the front at Ypres or in the Lille district would soon teach them better. The German airmen are, on the contrary, just now, because of their superiority, bold in attack almost to the point of rashness. Whether they take up their positions a couple of kilometres this or the other side of the enemy lines ought to be a matter of indifference to them. It is just the task of the airman to carry out his aerial reconnaissance in the direction of and over the enemy zone. When the observer is satisfied with his camera work, and the enemy assailant comes near, he will certainly not enter, merely to please Mr. Tennant, into a useless combat with as many enemy machines as possible, but will try to evade them in order to bring home his valuable observations. If the pursuers then, in their turn, in the heat of the combat, are hit and brought down by our aircraft or guns, and thus sustain far greater losses than ourselves, the result can scarcely be regarded as a proof of a lack of fighting spirit on our part."

"Peace Propaganda in England."

Under the heading, "Peace Propaganda in England," the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* prints a "message from The Hague" about the debate announced to take place in the House of Commons.

The writer begins by quoting a speech in which Mr. Philip Snowden is said to have declared that "there is to-day in all England no intelligent or thinking person who believes in the possibility of a decisive military victory over Germany," that "the hope of a victory by economic exhaustion is equally deceptive," and that "everything indicates

BATTLE PICTURES ON THE TIGRIS.

THE FIELD OF SHEIKH SAAD.

STOICISM OF THE WOUNDED.

(FROM MR. EDMUND CANDLER.)

SHEIKH SAAD, JAN. 13.

In an earlier letter I gave a brief description of the river up to Amara. Above Amara the banks become even more barren and desolate. The reed huts of the nomads give place to black goat-hair tents. The scenery is easy to describe: hard-caked mud on either side.

In the region of Sheikh Saad the land is maliciously and fanatically sterile. It is the country over which Childe Roland rode to the Dark Tower, naked earth in its most depressing form, cracked and caked and rutty, without the rock, gravel, or sand which give colour to the desert.

It was over this rutty ground that the transport wagons bumped and jolted with their freight of wounded on the evening of January 7. It was evening when our steamer moored near the battlefield. We went out to meet them as they steamed in over the mud-coloured flat, and gave what aid we could. Many were walking very erect, some of them with the stiffness of effort. These were the less serious cases; the stretchers and transport wagons came in later. One was struck with the hardiness and stoicism of the British and Indian alike.

"Beg your pardon, sir," says a British private, "can you tell me where the ambulance is?" and he deprecates the support of my shoulder, though his calf is bandaged, and it is painful for him to put his left foot to the ground.

"I am all right, sir; it's nothing serious." He lifts up his shirt and points to a puncture in his stomach. His face is bloody and bandaged.

"It's nothing," he explains; "took off a bit of my gums."

He will not rest, but moves on towards the distant Red Cross flag and the funnels of the steamer on the river. Here at least should be rest, warm tea, and comfort for his wounds. But in Mesopotamia it is a far cry to the smooth motor ambulances of France, the rapid transit to the hospital, where an hour or two after he has received first aid doctors and nurses are ready with every saving device that science can provide.

THE BATTLE THROUGH A MIRAGE.

The evolutions of our troops on land were obscured by the mirage. We saw infantry like trees moving, and thought them a transport train. Other masses, which could be nothing but artillery, crossed the pontoon bridge ahead of us from the right bank to the left. The mirage does not affect the atmosphere at the height of a bursting shell; we could see the shrapnel smoke unfolding two or three miles from the bank, and wondered if it were Turkish artillery or our own. "Shelling their advanced posts" was the general verdict. It was not till later that we realized that the whole force was at grips with the enemy; and it was not until we moored and met the converging stream coming in from the trenches that we realized how costly the day had been. The guns we had heard had played but a small part in the action, for the mirage had made artillery preparation for our advance ineffectual, and the bulk of our casualties on both banks of the stream had occurred in frontal attacks on the enemy's position.

As I write we are moving on to attack a new position, and it is not the moment yet for a detailed account of the action and the part taken in it by individual regiments. In the meanwhile friends at home may care to have a picture of the ground on which we are fighting and where our dead lie.

On the afternoon of the 8th a little regimental cemetery had been pegged out in the camp. Picture a narrow space between kicking mules and gurgling camels and ammunition limbers on the Tigris bank. In the distance, seen through the slanting masts of the river-boats and the smoke of the transport steamers and monitors, the snow of the Pusht-i-Kuh is taking on a faint rose from the setting sun. The dead lie still and peaceful in their narrow graves, each in the dark blanket, wound tightly round him, like a mummy, with his name scribbled on the page of a notebook and fixed to the fold with a pin. Soon the padre will come and read the service over them. For verdure there is the agoon and the kharnoog, and for a tombstone a wooden cross cut out of a packing-case. "Private Andrew, of the ——shires," "Captain Thomas, of the ——shires," lie here. Born in a smiling grass country, buried in the hard, inhospitable clay of Sheikh Saad.

DISTRACTIONS OF THE WOUNDED.

As the fatigue party dig and prepare the last bivouac for the dead, the wounded of yesterday, swathed in their bloody bandages, stand on the bank a few feet apart, smoking and chatting and watching the shells which burst with the clearness of magnesium wire against the opal and violet haze in the west. There is a baneful beauty in these shrapnel flashes, and one forgets that they are making more dead. It takes about two days to get used to these things. The crowd on the bank might be watching a football match; across the river there is an actual football, rising and falling to desultory kicks.

It is now almost dark, but a serious, scholarly-looking Scot leans against the bank straining his eyes over a *Times* broadsheet. A few hours ago he was fighting, as his bandages attest; for the moment he is far away in other climes, going rural rides with Cobbet or reading Walton's account of the marriage of Richard Hooker in or about the year 1583, or listening to the voice of George Herbert, who tells him that

Man is all symmetric,
Full of proportions, one limb to another.

Life and death have their true proportions here. Life is a gift that is rendered back carelessly or earnestly to the Giver. Death is no mor[e] than a turn at the corner of the dark road we have been treading blindly. Still, one wonders. Will there ever be an end of killing or maiming as a legalized form of human endeavour? War, as my subaltern friend says, is a much-overrated pastime.

ARAB CAVALRY.

RAIDERS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

EFFECTS OF MIRAGE.

(FROM MR. EDMUND CANDLER.)

SHEIKH SAAD, JAN. 11.

The mobility of the Arab cavalary, who ride light, and are unsparing of their horses, is something outside experience. On approaching a Turkish position to reconnoitre our scouts will often see a horde of Arabs emerge from the dark masses and spread in a fanlike movement over the whole horizon. These irregulars are eternally swooping about for no apparent reason, unless it be bravado or the instinct of the kite, in complicated movements and figures of eight. Drop a shell in front of them and they will swerve like a flight of teal and make a wide detour in full gallop, and appear on the other flank.

The atmosphere is most deceptive, and in the haze or mirage it is difficult to tell if the enemy are horse or foot, or to make any estimate of their numbers. Everything is magnified. A low-lying mud village becomes a fort with walls 20ft. high; a group of donkeys, a palm grove. Camels appear on a near horizon like huge dissipated compasses. There is not a cavalry regiment with the force which has not at some time or other mistaken sheep for infantry. All that is gained in scouting by the flatness of the country is discounted by the eccentricities of the mirage. Often in a reconnaissance the enemy are within 600 yards before the squadron commander can distinguish whether they are mounted or on foot.

Apart from the mirage, the country affords little or no cover save the mud banks of an occasional dry irrigation channel. These are high, and in the distance might be taken for the walls of a city. The disused water channels look as if the channel had been carried above the level of the surrounding country. The low isolated sand hill is a snare, which draws artillery fire and leaves an exposed flank on either side.

CAVALRY ESSENTIAL.

In no theatre of the war is our cavalry so essential, for the Arabs are always hovering on our flanks ready to take advantage of any accident or confusion by the way. And they follow like jackals in our rear. Two jibbing ponies in a Jaipur transport cart have to be unyoked and the cart abandoned. The Arabs are down on it before the rearguard has passed on 800 yards. After this the nondescript horde close in, emboldened by the loot.

They are, frankly, plunderers, and murder is merely the preliminary to pillage. They kill their prey before they strip it. A battlefield is haunted by them for days. They leave the dead stark, and have been known to dig up graves. Yet to see their prisoners clamouring for food and water and attention to the wounded, you would think they had been trained in the comity of nations. It is on record that they have sometimes spared wounded, but only on occasion when some responsible person has been by, an influential Sheikh or a regular Turkish officer.

Nominally they are fighting for the Turk, but they are the most uncomfortable allies. Their Islamic sympathies are but skin deep, and they turn on their friends and murder and loot them, too, if opportunity delivers them into their hands. The Turks use them, but put no trust in them. That good sportsman Saif Ullah, once Commandant of the Fire Brigade at Constantinople, expressed our mutual case against the Arab when he became our prisoner at Amara. "It would be better," he said, "if we could join hands and make an end of these scavengers. We could settle our own differences later."

This afternoon a chaplain rides up to the colonel of an Indian Lancer regiment, with whom I am talking, and asks for an escort to a battlefield three miles in the rear to bury the dead. "Three sowars will be enough, sir," the padre says, apologetically. "I wouldn't trouble you, but it is orders." The colonel has been in the country fourteen months. He sends out a British officer and two troops of Lancers. It is only three miles out from Army Headquarters, yet two officers had nearly been scuppered the day before while inspecting an abandoned trench.

The impudence of the Arab is sometimes entertaining. At Ali-Al-Gharbi I saw a motley rabble of unarmed villagers, old men and boys, attempt to pilfer a limber wagon as it was leaving camp, and a sowar scatter them to the four winds by gentle prods with his lace.

HAMPERED BY KIT.

The Arabs, of course, melt away whenever our cavalry charge. We can never get in among them. They are light and carry little kit, and seem to be independent of supplies. Their horses look thin and poor, but are hard and well fed, and they do not mind using them up. Our chargers are handicapped with their six stone of accoutrement, rifle and sword and ammunition, water-bottle, cloak, two blankets, emergency rations, a day's grain for the horse, and generally a heavier man to carry. The Arab horseman has his bag of dates, a small ration of grain for his horse, and nothing else save his arms and ammunition. These are of no regular pattern—a rifle always, Martini-Henri or Mauser, a dagger or sword or both, waist-belt and bandolier of ammunition, and occasionally—especially among the Muntafiks—a lance, a broad-headed, formidable spear like an assegai.

They fire from the saddle for choice and employ no dismounting tactics. Each man holds his own horse and stands or kneels firing. Their tactics are always to surround a smaller force, shoot the horses, and close in; or to lead our cavalry on to an infantry ambuscade. They fear ambuscades themselves and are chary of following us up. They are naturally more formidable in a retirement, when they wait until our cavalry are mounting and get in their fire before they take up another position. They will only attack small bodies when the odds are five or six to one. They have cut up a patrol or two, but have never got in on a troop or squadron, much less on a regiment, and are not encouraged by their superior numbers, which are, indeed, discounted by our guns.

March 3, 1915, in the skirmish in the wood near Shaiba, is, I think, the only occasion on which they have charged. They believed they had taken us in an ambuscade, and at a disadvantage in the deep mud. We were 480 cavalry, with two sections of horse artillery, and vastly outnumbered. We had no time to close in ranks and crumple them up, but wheeled on to them in extended order. We were interlocked. For a minute it was sword and lance. Then they gave. As they retired they came under our infantry fire, which did bloody execution. It was the best fight they have offered.

It should be explained that what I have written in this article has no reference to the Turkish cavalry, but to the Arabs alone, who form an irregular subsidiary force which must always be taken into account. Also we must leave out of the picture the tribes of those settled and responsible Sheikhs of Koweit and Mohammorah, who are bound to us by mutual services and an honourable tradition of good faith.

GERMAN FOOD SUBSTITUTES.

ASTONISHING RESULTS OF ANALYSES.

25 PER CENT. DECLARED UNFIT FOR FOOD.

At a general meeting of the Association of Austrian Chemists, held at Vienna, the President, Dr. Mansfeld, reported on analyses which had been made of 1,356 articles of food during the past year. The results of the analyses, he said, were appalling, and revealed incredible trickery of the very basest description. No fewer than 335 articles were shown to have been adulterated almost beyond recognition, or nearly a quarter of the total number of articles analysed.

Dr. Mansfeld stated that there were three circumstances which were at the root of all this malfeasance:—The prevailing custom of sending gifts to soldiers, the importation of adulterated articles from abroad, especially from Holland, and the effort made to find substitutes for articles of daily consumption, the supply of which had been exhausted.

For the troops a large number of unwholesome tea, coffee, and cocoa mixtures and extracts were in use, most of them deleterious and worked up with sugar and dry milk ingredients of a most dangerous character.

From abroad the most important imports—meat and potted meat, sausages, fat of all kinds, soap, condensed milk and cocoa—are articles which cannot be obtained at home. There are ingredients in these things which have hitherto never been used for human food. This is especially the case in products supposed to be derived from milk, flour, flavourings and honey.

FOOD ADULTERANTS.

Coming to particulars, the President stated that in the case of meat and potted and preserved meat and sausages the adulterators moved pretty much on the usual lines. Two of the most common adulterants were potatoes and yeast, with glue to bind the mass together, and some seasoning. The necessary colouring is given by the use of aniline or tar dyes.

The large consignments of pork fat from Holland contain increasing quantities of cotton oil, and much of the other edible fats from that country are mixed with absolutely worthless things and with tallow. Dutch margarine was of the very worst quality, with a thick coating of mouldiness on it. Some of the ingredients defied analysis. This mouldiness was found on other foodstuffs as well—maize, for example. Some of this maize was tried on a horse—Dr. Mansfeld adds with fatal consequences.

The flour famine induced dealers largely to adulterate this vital article of food. In one case, quoted by the President, the flour used by bakers for strewing on their baking boards was found to consist of three-parts of powdered limestone and one part of ground sawdust. Ground bread for sprinkling on the outside of loaves was difficult to obtain, powdered maize was used and sold instead as the real article.

MEAT, COCOA, AND SOAP.

The article called "Honey-butter," which is now so largely used to replace butter for spreading on bread, is neither more nor less than a refuse by-product of sugar coloured with a tar dye, and some of the "meat extracts" are produced by a combination of substances, not one of which has any nutriment, and many of which are highly dangerous.

Cocoa and chocolate are most extensively adulterated. The grinding up of cocoa husks is extensively practised, says Dr. Mansfeld, both in Austria and in Germany. There are cocoa tabloids for sale which contain corn starch and little else save some tar colouring matter. Such an article as good soap it is most difficult to procure, and the process of deterioration proceeds rapidly. The fatty substances in the better class soaps are reduced to 12 per cent., and in the qualities used by the poor for scrubbing purposes to one per cent. The rest is filling, and badly worked, and badly assimilated alkalis.

The association has analysed insect powders, whose application must infallibly create intense discomfort, and which are absolutely worthless against vermin.

RUSSIA FROM WITHIN.

GROWING UNION OF CROWN AND PEOPLE.

WEEDING OUT THE ENEMY ELEMENTS.

Mr. Alexis Aladin, ex-member of the Duma, who is at present in England, has given Mr. Percy Alden, M.P., an interesting statement as to the condition of affairs in Russia. At the outbreak of the war many large towns found themselves, owing to disorganisation of the railway communications, sadly unprovided with the necessities of life. To this disorganisation of normal life was added the natural outburst of human greed and folly as expressed in speculation.

"To allay the discontent," said Mr. Aladin, "or, still better, to prevent its development, the Government had to take the necessary steps quickly and decisively. The Government called to their aid the provincial self-governing organisations, the Zemstvos and the town municipalities. The local self-governing bodies came forward immediately, organised as they were into two large associations, the Union of the Towns and the Union of the Zemstvos, and were entrusted with the task of helping to feed, clothe, and supply the other necessities of the army and to deal with the wounded."

The tradition of fighting in winter, Mr. Aladin explained, still carried weight in Russia, and the idea was conceived of hammering through the Carpathians with large numbers of men, not allowing the enemy to bring up superior artillery.

"We failed in this difficult feat owing to lack of munitions," he said. "This lack of munitions roused the country and the unions to action. Facilities were given to the Union of Towns and the Union of Zemstvos to form war munitions committees all over Russia, culminating in a Central War Munitions Committee. These committees were formed even in Central Asia and Siberia. They had to start new factories, obtain tools, buy steel, and find all the material out of which munitions are manufactured. But owing to the disorganisation of the railways the materials did not arrive in time."

HOW THE DUMA WORKS.

As to the part the Duma played, Mr. Aladin thought there had been misrepresentation in England.

"In your country," he said, "I find there is a great deal of misapprehension as to how the Duma works. It is not empowered to touch any item of the national income which existed before the creation of the Duma. But everything that is raised over and above must pass through the Duma. So the Duma is a compromise between two contending forces, the new order which wants to control the purse and the old order which held the money. For three years the Duma refused to give credits for Dreadnoughts. From the very first day, the Duma declared as a body for the war. When the Duma reassembled last time it reflected the state of the country like a mirror. The Duma was the central point; behind her stood the Union of the Towns, the Union of Zemstvos, the Central War Committee. From these last bodies radiated in all directions innumerable local organisations which developed under pressure of the requirements of war. The country was organised; what was still lacking was a common understanding, a minimum program acceptable to all without distinction of party and creed."

The Central Government, according to Mr. Aladin, acted in haste and temper. They prorogued the Duma. But the Government suddenly saw that behind the Duma was a country perfectly organised. Besides, the people were armed. The Government saw that the situation required more statesmanship and a great deal more toleration. After forty-eight hours the crisis was over. It was only a question as to when the parties should meet together again.

"Can it now be said," Mr. Alden asked, "that the country is united?"

Mr. Aladin replied: "In my opinion no power in Russia could stop her in her determination to fight to a finish. Everything for which Russia stands in the eyes of the people is at stake. We had made up our minds not to submit even if we lose Petrograd. There is no divergence of opinion in this respect."

THE PRO-GERMAN ELEMENT.

Mr. Alden interposed the remark that it was generally understood in England that there was a fairly large section of extremists, some of whom were pro-German, whilst others were against the war.

"Of course," said Mr. Aladin, "there are extremists. Pro-Germans are a comparatively insignificant number of men. They have no influence with the Tsar. The more dangerous section is that which is interested in maintaining the *status quo* because the *status quo* is their livelihood. That section is largely permeated by the German element, and has succeeded in penetrating into the administration of the country. They immediately proceeded to create a series of new organisations of the Right and Extreme Monarchists. At the last congress of the Monarchist extremists, however, their declaration was that the war must be prosecuted until the enemy is driven from Russia and utterly crushed."

The outlook was most hopeful. In the Cabinet there was no man who would listen to the whisperings—alluring and attractive as they might be—of the Germans or pro-Germans.

"This war," said Mr. Aladin, in conclusion, "was created by Germany, and it was bound to come. Germany has wormed her way into Russia. Under her baneful influence there was being created in Russia a veritable gulf between the Crown with its Government and the people. At the present moment the gulf is being bridged; the German influence in high quarters and circles is disappearing. The German hold on our finances, factories, workshops, and arsenals is going, I hope, for ever. With the Duma united as it is, only steadiness is required from the political leaders of the democracy. The Government must provide itself with the most necessary virtue—patience—in dealing with internal problems. Both sides must remember that the manhood of the nation is armed on the frontier, fighting the Germans."

NEW RUSSIAN PREMIER'S WAR-CRY.

VICTORY AND A LASTING PEACE.

The Russian papers to hand give the full text of the statement issued by M. Sturmer, the new Russian Prime Minister, on Russia's foreign and domestic policy, of which a scanty summary was telegraphed at the time to this country. We print below in full the passages referring to the war:—

In the time which we are passing through the fundamental task which stands before us all is the attainment at all costs of a victorious ending of the war, which was not begun by us. I always was, and still am, a convinced and unflinching adherent of the idea that this war imposed upon us must be won at any price. No offers of a separate peace, however attractive they may seem and however advantageous they really may be, will solve the problem set before the peoples by this titanic struggle.

We are not intimidated by—nay, they appear to us ridiculous—these threats of our financial or economic exhaustion. When the issue at stake is the primary, most vital interests of Russia, how can one speak of the exhaustion of this enormous country, which is not only replete with visible natural riches, but which every day reveals to us new and hitherto unknown treasures both of material wealth and of the spiritual strength and heroic spirit of its sons! Neither Russia nor the Russian people can be defeated.

Our great country and our great people can only make peace in complete agreement with their Allies and in complete conviction that this peace, worthy of great Russia, would secure for her for long years to come complete progress and prosperity in the realisation of her material and moral interests. To the attainment of this great historical object the united efforts of all her sons, great and humble, must be consecrated. We live in exceptional times, and to these exceptional times correspond exceptional problems. Their solution is only possible by the united strength of the entire Russian nation, from its highest to its lowest classes.

THE SAVINGS OF THE PEOPLE.

The Russian Council of Ministers had under consideration a statistical memorandum showing the financial and economic condition of the Empire at the end of January. According to a summary which has appeared in the press, the condition of the winter crops appears to be favourable. The influx of cash deposits in the State savings banks in the course of 1915 reached the record figure of £55,600,000, whereas in the previous year, when the crops were particularly abundant the total amount of deposits was only £9,600,000. In addition, the savings banks received on deposit various paper securities to an aggregate amount of £15,700,000, as against £5,300,000 in 1914. The total amount of cash deposits in the State savings banks on December 14, 1915, was £239,100,000 and in paper securities £55,800,000.

In 1915 only 8,748,000 gallons of State vodka were sold, as against 146,791,000 in 1914. The revenue from the sale of liquor accordingly diminished by £44,000,000 as compared with the year before.

AN ECONOMIC ENTENTE.

MR. BONAR LAW'S BELIEF.

FISCAL CONTROVERSY SETTLED.

The *New York Times* publishes an interview with Mr. Bonar Law. "If militarism, according to the Prussian standard, is not crushed by this war," says Mr. Law, "nothing will prevent a repetition of the present catastrophe, and civilisation in Europe will go down before barbarism, as did that of Rome. All the outpouring of blood and treasure which the war involves will have been in vain if the piling up of armaments which preceded this conflict is to go on undiminished afterwards."

Mr. Bonar Law plays an important part in the War Council. It is said that it was due to his persistent advocacy that the evacuation of Gallipoli was carried out, and the 100,000 British troops saved from an impossible position.

UNITY OF CONTROL.

"The direction of the war," he went on to say, "has at all events greatly improved. We in this country have concentrated the direction into fewer hands, and we are linking up with our Allies, and endeavouring to get that unity of control which the enemy possesses."

"We must never forget," he said reflectively, "that democratic countries are always at a disadvantage in prosecuting a war. Take ourselves. We were not prepared for war, except for defence at sea. We were not organised for war. Plunged into this conflict suddenly and unexpectedly, as we were, it was inevitable that there should be mistakes, muddles, and delays.

"Organising for war does not mean merely gathering together great armies, training and equipping them; it means that all departments of national life have to be brought into national unity and organised on a war basis. This takes time. Perhaps it has taken too much time; but at any rate we have now changed our point of view about everything. We are living in a war atmosphere. Nothing matters except winning the war."

OUR PROUD ACHIEVEMENT.

"Our armies in the field in proportion to our reserves are as great as those of any of our Allies. Our reserves are growing; our new recruits are being rapidly trained, and there will be no lack of reinforcements for the fighting line. Although I never considered that the voluntary system was the best in a war like this, after we have gone so far I would have liked to have seen Britain go through the war without resorting to compulsion.

"It is a proud achievement to have been able to enlist nearly four million volunteers, and to find that six millions have offered. And, after all, the compulsory element will be small in proportion to the total. We have now no anxiety about munitions. We are gaining in strength every week, and the superiority in munitions, and, indeed, in all forms of organisation, which were the result of previous preparations, which our enemies enjoyed at the beginning of the war, is now, I believe, rapidly diminishing."

"Canada," Mr. Bonar Law added, "is preparing to place half a million men in the field; Australia will have contributed ten per cent. of her population; and the comparatively small Commonwealth of New Zealand more. The West Indies and Newfoundland, our oldest colony, came forward with fine contingents, and every part of the Empire has given fine examples of patriotism."

GOVERNMENT AND CRITICS.

As to the apparent feeling against the Government, and the criticism to which it is subjected, "one great disadvantage which a democratic country has in the case of war," he said, "besides having to adapt itself to war conditions, is to face the freedom of opinion which persists. The Government is attacked, and is unable to make a defence without revealing things which must be kept secret. The larger the number of people who can have a say on the conduct of a war, or who have power to criticise those managing the war, the more difficult it is to carry it on without opposition. I believe that if the Government in this country had been based on the same broad lines as it is to-day in the time of the Napoleonic wars, when the Government was in the hands of the few and the people were not consulted, the result might have been different."

As Mr. Bonar Law is keenly interested in economic questions, I asked him if he contemplated an economic *entente* among the Allies after the war.

"I do," he replied.

"It will be difficult?"

"It will not be easy, but the war will have changed all our relations. I believe the war has settled our fiscal controversy. Germany will be driven out of many markets by force of circumstances. Never again will we compete with her on unequal terms as before.

ECONOMIC ENTENTE.

"The Allies will very probably enter into an economic *entente* with each other, and the British Empire will have to rely more on its own resources, and the war will have shown us how this can be done."

"Do you think the war will make any change in the relations between Great Britain and the United States?"

"One possible change might come if a League of Peace were formed to prevent a repetition of the present calamity, and if so the United States must naturally be an important member of that League. If it were an armed league the United States would have to be stronger, in order to play its part in an international police force, whose duty it would be to keep the world in order."

TRAVEL AFTER THE WAR.

PLANS FOR TRANSATLANTIC TRAFFIC.

The *New York Times*, in an interesting article discussing the prospects in regard to Transatlantic traffic after the war states that the two leading German steamship lines, the Hamburg-Amerika and the North German Lloyd, expect to put about five new liners each on the New York service as soon as peace is declared. These will be in addition to their ships now detained in ports of the United States and Germany.

It has been estimated that there will be at least 500,000 Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Poles, and Slavs waiting with their money in hand ready to start for Europe in the first days of peace to find out what has become of their relatives and of their property. Naturally the great bulk of these will travel by German and Austrian steamers, and most of them will travel second class or steerage. Officials of the German lines in New York state that already some thousands of people have written or called at their offices to reserve accommodation.

Competition will doubtless be very keen for the first class American traffic to Europe, which during the first spring and summer after peace is declared will probably far surpass all previous records. In this competition the British and French lines and the Holland-Amerika line, which have all kept up their services through the war, will undoubtedly fare best, especially if, as is believed, the German liners will not be permitted to call at British or French ports to land or pick up passengers for several years to come.

Eastbound passenger traffic from the United States ports to Europe during 1915 showed a marked decrease in all classes, compared with 1913, the last normal year for ocean travel. The total decrease for all classes was 416,219, the principal falling off being in first class passengers. In 1915 the number of first class passengers leaving the United States for Europe was 18,870, second class 46,882, and steerage 243,342, a large proportion of these being French and Italian reservists. The total for all classes was 309,905. The figures for 1913 were 104,396 first class, 141,126 second class, and 470,792 steerage, totalling 725,314.

The falling off in westbound traffic in the year 1915, compared with 1914, was:—69,891 first class, 115,781 second class, and 509,754 steerage.

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MUSICAL TOPICS.

GRIEG AND "PEER GYNT."

The Home Music Study Union is not as well known in Ireland as it should be. It has often struck me that its plan of study-circles would be just the thing in the provincial towns, where little public music is heard, and musical people feel the want of some definite stimulus of their interest in the art. The Union is affiliated with an older organisation, the National Home Reading Union, and works, with suitable modifications, on the same lines. It encourages the formation of circles, but gives help also to individual members. The courses of study which it prescribes are drawn up by persons of experience and authority in the musical world, and are as useful as guides in the solitary pursuit of musical culture as in the co-operative study carried out in the circles. This is the Union's ninth session, and I see that the courses prescribed for it were a Listeners' Course, one on British music, and a third on the Great Composers. Anybody may become a member, and any member may form a circle. There is no entrance fee or subscription, but in order to become a member one has to be a regular purchaser of the magazine called "The Music Student." This magazine started by being little more than the course book of the Union; now it is a monthly musical magazine of some bulk, considerable influence, and great interest to everybody who cares about music. The comprehensive scope of its appeal is shown by the fact that it includes supplements, on the one hand for young people, and on the other hand for advanced chamber musicians. It is edited by a man who seems to be brimming over with good ideas and good humour, and manages to make them both show in the magazine. One of his good ideas is to devote certain numbers of "The Music Student" almost entirely to particular subjects. For example, the January number, which I have before me, contains all the usual "features" of the magazine, but concentrates, as it were, on Grieg

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A very interesting number it is. Everybody who knows anything of Grieg's associates the name with the "Peer Gynt" suite. This is a suite of incidental numbers written for the production of Ibsen's drama "Peer Gynt." Accordingly we have here articles on "The Story of Peer Gynt" (briefly retold by the editor), on "Ibsen for the Ignorant," and on "The Music of 'Peer Gynt.'" As to Grieg and his work in general, the following are amongst the articles in this number—"Some Influences in the Life of Grieg," by Percy A. Scholes; "Grieg's Songs," by G. C. Ashton-Jonson; "Grieg and the Pianola," by G. C. Ashton-Jonson; "Some Norwegian Manners and Customs illustrating the music of Grieg," "Grieg's Chamber Music," by Marion M. Scott; "A Friend of Grieg—Ole Bull," by Edith M. G. Reed; "The National Instruments of Scandinavia"—and so on. A complete annotated list of Grieg's pianoforte works is given—and the notes are of an extremely useful kind—and Grieg pops out at one from every page—e.g., the article on "Grieg Transcribed for the Organ," by Dr. E. C. Bairstow, in the organ pages. So that one sees that "The Music Student" does things thoroughly. The number starts off with the facsimile reproduction of a letter from Madame Grieg expressing her pleasure at the idea of this special issue devoted to her late husband's life and work. Madame Grieg also gave her permission for the republication of an article which she herself wrote on "The Music of 'Peer Gynt.'" The article was specially translated for "The Music Student," and has not previously been quoted, I understand, in English. It is very interesting, and I am going to presume the permission of my friend the editor of "The Music Student" (Mr. Percy A. Scholes) for the quotation of the following passages:—

"The primary cause that moved Grieg to write the music of 'Peer Gynt' was Henrik Ibsen. A letter arrived from him, one fine morning, asking whether Grieg would lend a hand in preparing the piece for the theatre. He was completely taken aback, for it had never entered his head that a play so philosophical and so strongly tinged with Ibsen's scepticism could possibly be produced. So for several days he wandered up and down, full of doubt and anxiety, and very nervous at the thought of embarking on so great a task. But after he had gone more deeply into the poem, so colossal in its outlines, the conviction seized him that this particular work, with its witchery and its wildness, its maidens and its swine (those creatures of his early days)—with its intensely Norwegian flavour and its general air of—'Hi! come along,' was the very thing for him, and he speedily became so enthusiastic about the undertaking that he simply longed to set to work, if only he could find a suitable place to work in.

"We were staying that summer, with my father and mother-in-law, in Sandviken, a little suburban place near Bergen, and had no settled home of our own, and when Grieg was out for a walk, and caught sight of some little cottage, snugly situated in a sequestered spot, or anything of that kind, he had a way of breaking out with a sudden: 'Oh!—the luck to be allowed to work in such a place!' And once, during these long summer days, as we were wandering about in the open, the fantastic doings of the Trolls continually running riot in his head, we chanced upon a bungalow built high up on a little hill, far from any human habitation, with windows looking in every possible direction, and a glorious view out over the sea on the one side, and far away to the mountains on the other. After that Grieg had no peace. That was the place for his work, where neither the Trolls nor the old man of the Dovre would ever be scared away by multitudes of men, or the 'cattle of the black coat;' and where there was a grand wide 'Peer Gyntish' sort of an outlook. We made prompt enquiries about the owner of the bungalow. Grieg put all his energy into the business, as he always did when there was anything really at stake, and in a few days he had leave to take possession, had a piano carried up, and set to work, glowing with enthusiasm and full of interest in the theme.

"I do not remember how much of the 'Peer Gynt' music was written that summer, but I know that it was Solveig's first song that saw the light earliest of all, and the bright summer evening up there on the hill top, when we played and sang it together for the first time, will live for ever in my memory. Grieg himself with a humorous smile called the song 'A Public Lamp.' And in a way he was right there, for wherever his name is known Solveig's song (and also, of course, 'I love thee, dear') stand in the front rank of his representative achievements. A striking evidence of this was given us once when we were staying in a hotel up in Semmering. A number of peasants came in from the mountains with their zithers, and before we knew what they were about, had set to work to play Solveig's song.

"Time went on, and the composition came to an end, but the instrumentation still lagged behind. On one of our summer flights to Denmark (the beloved land of our happy youth!) we went to Fredensborg, to pay a visit to our dear friends, August and Clara Winding. They were just starting on a journey and we got permission to stay in their apartments, which were quite in the country and absolutely idyllic, with a view across the Esrom Sea. In the calm of these surroundings Grieg sat diligently at his writing table, busy over the instrumentation of his music to 'Peer Gynt.' An old Danish friend of mine, who passed the window very often, and always saw him bending over his work, said to me quite naively: 'You may be very glad, my child, that you have such a husband; one who sits at his work from morning till night, instead of going off to the club to play cards!' I must say that that point of view had never even occurred to me. It had always seemed so much a matter of course that Grieg should be sitting steadily at his work. And then the day came when he sat there no longer. But 'Peer Gynt' went on its triumphal way."

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At the end of July the enemy attacked in much greater strength than on the previous occasion. The garrison was very largely outnumbered, but offered so hot a defence that, after suffering considerable losses, the enemy retired on August 3.

The attacking force, which was under the command of General Wehle, was composed of 400 Europeans and 200 Arabs. The strength of the garrison was 470 Rhodesian and Belgian native troops, with only 19 Europeans. The garrison had but little food, and depended for water upon supplies obtained at night under fire and between pickets from the river. On July 31 a parliamentaire arrived from the German lines with a white flag and a letter inquiring whether the commandant was prepared to consider terms of surrender. Major O'Sullivan's reply was an emphatic negative.

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The Commandant-General considers that much of the success of the defence was due to the fine soldierly qualities, indefatigable endeavours, and personality of Major O'Sullivan, and he has been appointed a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order in recognition of his conduct of the defence of Saisi. The Commandant-General's despatches make special mention for gallantry of Lieutenant H. Allport and several native police.

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Turning to concrete evidence of increasing North American activity in Argentina, the official statistics of Argentina show for the first nine months of 1915 an increase in the value of imports from the United States of nearly 9,000,000 pesos gold (pesos gold=4s.). The comparative figures are 28,747,582 pesos in the first nine months of 1914, and 37,724,8[..] pesos in the corresponding period of 1915.

This increase may not seem colossal, but it occurred during a period when imports were being deliberately or necessarily restricted, and during which imports into Argentina from all the principal European nations registered important declines. The National City Bank of New York in Buenos Ayres has already taken part in several loans to the Government of the Republic, the first a year ago and the last in December, 1915.

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A French Commercial Mission visited South America in April and May of last year, spending over a month in Argentina. There is little doubt that some tangible results can already be attributed to their intelligent labours, and more are certain to follow in due course.

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Soldiers are never used to quell these demonstrations, because the authorities are afraid of going too far with their brutal methods, and besides ... have been known to refuse to fire or draw their swords on a crowd.

Individuals are subjected to an extraordinary regime of supervision. Well-known men, not merely Socialists, are often compelled to remain within the towns they live in, and pass-ports, even for Austria-Hungary, are refused them. Another favourite method of the authorities is the so-called Schutzhaft, a state of preventive arrest—which is beloved of the Government because it makes no noise. One fine evening a motor car stops at your door; two men call upon you—and straightway you enter upon an enforced holiday.

But this method cannot be adopted with the masses, who make demonstrations because there is a scarcity of some things and others are too dear. However, lately the word "peace" has been occurring far more than "dearness" and "hunger."

The speaker closed his remarks with a solemn warning against any hopes being placed in a possible revolution in Germany, for Germans, he said, do not possess the revolutionary instinct. The state of tension in the interior of Germany has in no wise diminished the power and authority of the Government which in its turn is ruled by a military dictatorship.

DISCOURAGEMENT IN GERMAN ARMY.

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Every day brings some fresh evidence that both the German Army and the people are growing discontented at the progress of the war and the manner in which it is waged. The soldiers now perceive the harshness and cruelty of their officers, and the life that they lead is beginning to tell heavily upon their spirits. A correspondent of the *Petit Parisien* says that it is now dawning upon them that there is a world of difference between the nation—which they themselves represent—and the Junkers who lead them like sheep to the slaughter.

Even the Kaiser does not escape the savage hatred of many, who hold him responsible for the universal distress. During his last visit to Charleville an officer insulted the Emperor before anybody had time to interfere. It is true that the offender was shot then and there in the presence of the outraged majesty of the Kaiser, and every effort was made to hush up the affair, but it soon became known and did not contribute to the cultivation of a kindlier feeling towards the War Lord amongst those who thought much the same as the executed officer. It is forbidden for the men to write anything home about what they are doing or suffering at the front; letters from Germany to the troops are strictly censored, and any allusion to discontent leads to punishment of the writer and recipient. Nevertheless, many a letter slips through, and one which was recently found on a prisoner, dated from Tungsted, ran:—

"Your letters take 15 days to reach us, and the postal service is really too careless. Your uncle has been incorporated, although he is 44 and has never been in the Army. There is no more butter. The grocer will not sell anything except for cash. We are lucky to have electric light, for there is no more petroleum. We do not know what to buy, everything is so scarce and dear. The war must certainly end soon, else there will be a famine here, as there will be with our enemies. Now I am obliged also to eat dry bread, and see what it is like.

"No consideration is paid to your requests for leave, and you ought to revolt rather than allow yourselves to be mutilated or killed. You have been long enough at the front. We have had enough, too, of hunger: bread and potatoes, and potatoes and bread. You cannot do much on 37s. a month for your father, yourself, and three children. It's a wretched life and cannot go on. No more food and no more money. Take well to heart all that I have written."

MUTINOUS SPIRIT.

Not an encouraging letter to receive. And it is only one among dozens of the same tenor. And they are beginning to bear fruit, in that the men are mutinous, and disobey orders before obeying them. In the sector of the Bolante Wood lately the officers announced to their troops that they would attack the French positions the next day. Two regiments, the 155th and 49th, and the 6th Jager Battalion were to take part in it. The men gathered together to argue it out. The veterans had not enough confidence in the new recruits from the Landsturm, as they had only had six weeks' training. And the French works appeared too strong. Consequently on the morrow the attack was faint-hearted, and there was an evident lack of unity in the forces. The half of a company of Landsturm was mowed down by the French guns before it had gone ten yards, and the regiments were decimated by an inferior French force. In the evening the older men naturally said that they had been right in their opinion, though there was really only want of trust in the command.

It would not be hard to multiply similar instances of half-hearted attacks lately, and probably the reason is always the same. Sometimes the men refuse altogether to advance, as happened not long ago at Hamegne St. Martin, where the 190th regiment was supposed to be resting. When they received orders to go to the front they simply threw their rifles and equipment on to the ground, declaring that they were not going to be slaughtered for nothing, and that Germany was ruined. The officers, mere boys, attempted to calm them by promising victory, and the regiment finally left, saying to the villagers that they were going to give themselves up to the French, and adding:—"We have had more than enough, and do not want any more war." Most of them were youngsters, between 1[.] and 20.

The general moral has certainly sunk considerably, and many a time the prisoners confess that their comrades are weeping, and saying that the day is lost. Two sorts of moral epidemics are raging in the German lines—theft and suicide. Not only the men, but the officers, admit that the chances of a German victory are growing fainter and more remote, but at the same time they all say that the Kaiser will go to the bitter end. In this they are unanimous. But how will the nation support him in the face of the feelings that undoubtedly are spreading with the greatest rapidity?

SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WAR.

THE AMALGAMATION OF RHODESIA.

... Reuter's representative who met Sir Starr Jameson on his return from his visit to South Africa received the following information from him regarding the proposed amalgamation of Rhodesia, and on the general and political situation in that country and in the Union.

Sir Starr said:—"The visit of Mr. M... and myself was entirely satisfactory. ... views have now been laid before the ... and are being considered. Further developments will depend upon their attitude ... shown in the forthcoming session of the South Rhodesian Legislative Council. In Northern Rhodesia, where there is no Council, no such opportunity occurs. The attitude of the districts outside the town of Livingstone is distinctly favourable, and Livingstone itself begins to see that, taken as a whole, Northern Rhodesia stands to gain by the amalgamation."

Asked as to when the proposed scheme would come into operation, Sir Starr said—"One cannot tell. The Legislative Council meets at the end of April, and then we shall know better what their opinions will be. The views of the directors of the Chartered Company have already been set forth in Rhodesia in detail."

Speaking of Rhodesia and the war, Dr. ...

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MUTINOUS SPIRIT.

Not an encouraging letter to receive. And it is only one among dozens of the same tenor. And they are beginning to bear fruit, in that the men are mutinous, and discuss orders before obeying them. In the sector of the Bolante Wood lately the officers announced to their troops that they would attack the French positions the next day. Two regiments, the 135th and 98th, and the 6th Jager Battalion were to take part in it. The men gathered together to argue it out. The veterans had not enough confidence in the new recruits from the Landsturm, as they had only had six weeks' training. And the French works appeared too strong. Consequently, on the morrow the attack was faint-hearted, and there was an evident lack of unity in the forces. The half of a company of Jagers was mowed down by the French guns before it had gone ten yards, and the regiments were decimated by an inferior French force. In the evening the older men naturally said that they had been right in their opinion, though there was really only want of trust in the command.

It would not be hard to multiply similar instances of half-hearted attacks latterly, and probably the reason is always the same. Sometimes the men refuse altogether to advance, as happened not long ago at Hamogne St.-Martin, where the 190th regiment was supposed to be resting. When they received orders to go to the front they simply threw their rifles and equipment on to the ground, declaring that they were not going to be slaughtered for nothing, and that Germany was ruined. The officers, mere boys, attempted to calm them by promising victory, and the regiment finally left, saying to the villagers that they were going to give themselves up to the French, and adding:—"We have had more than enough, and do not want any more war." Most of them were youngsters, between 16 and 20.

The general moral has certainly sunk considerably, and many a time the prisoners confess that their comrades are weeping, and saying that the day is lost. Two sorts of moral epidemics are raging in the German lines—theft and suicide. Not only the men, but the officers, admit that the chances of a German victory are growing harder and more remote, but at the same time they all say that the Kaiser will go to the bitter end. In this they are unanimous. But how will the nation support him in the face of the feelings that undoubtedly are spreading with the greatest rapidity?

SOUTH AFRICA AND THE WAR.

THE AMALGAMATION OF RHODESIA.

Reuter's representative who met Sir Starr Jameson on his return from his mission to South Africa received the following statement from him regarding the proposed amalgamation of Rhodesia, and on the general and political situation in that country and in the Union.

Sir Starr said:—"The visit of Mr. Malcolm and myself was entirely satisfactory. Our views have now been laid before the people, and are being considered. Further developments will depend upon their attitude as shown in the forthcoming session of the South Rhodesian Legislative Council. In Northern Rhodesia, where there is no Council, no such opportunity occurs. The attitude of the districts outside the town of Livingstone is distinctly favourable, and Livingstone itself begins to see that, taken as a whole, Northern Rhodesia stands to gain by the amalgamation."

Asked as to when the proposed scheme would come into operation, Sir Starr said—"One cannot tell. The Legislative Council meets at the end of April, and then we shall know better what their opinions will be. The views of the directors of the Chartered Company have already been set forth in Rhodesia in detail."

Speaking of Rhodesia and the war, Dr. Jameson said that "every available man of military age is taking some part in the war. The difficulty is not to urge the people, but to prevent men going who are indispensable for the development of the country. Rhodesia itself naturally is suffering from a want of influx of capital, but at the same time all industries are going on. The people are content and on the whole doing well."

Speaking next of the general political situation in the Union, Sir Starr said:—"Outside the Nationalist camp the enthusiasm for all that Botha and Smuts have done as regards the Empire and the Union is equal to that so gratifyingly displayed at home. The unfortunate cause of Sir H. Smith-Dorrien's retirement from the East Africa campaign is realised, and it is felt that no better selection than that of General Smuts could have been made. Under him the campaign will, it is anticipated, be successful, sharp, and short. As to the political situation, General Botha, with the local support of Sir Thomas Smartt and the Unionists, is in a firm position, and, as time goes on, this must become more and more consolidated in view of the essential identity of the interests and aspirations of the parties led respectively by General Botha and Sir Thomas Smartt. Though there has been no political amalgamation between the two parties, at present it seems to be generally felt that any such amalgamation should come gradually rather than there should be any abrupt change at the present moment."

Speaking, in conclusion, of trade after the war, Sir Starr remarked the feeling against trade with the enemy is as strong and certainly more universal than in this country. The whole of the Union is clamouring for legislation to deal drastically with the matter. Both in Rhodesia and the whole of the Union enthusiasm for the Allied cause is equally great, although naturally the country is not suffering by the existence of war as we are here."

BULGARIAN DISCONTENT.

ATTACK BY THE ALLIES FEARED IN THE SPRING.

GERMANS DETESTED.

A despatch from Salonika to the *Petit Parisien* states that a Consular agent has given interesting information as to the situation in Bulgaria. He declares that bread and meat are still abundant, but that sugar, cheese, petrol, and coffee are almost entirely lacking. The general feeling shown is one of great weariness, especially amongst the military class. Soldiers state publicly that they will abandon the struggle if Russia crosses the frontier.

The manifesto of Tsar Nicholas is now known to the troops, who fear punishment. It is believed that the Allies will attack in the spring, which would place Bulgaria in a critical situation.

The Germans are detested, and numerous quarrels occur daily. Following a crime committed against a young girl, two German soldiers were killed by Bulgarian soldiers. Other Germans intervened, and in the subsequent conflict each side left six killed and several wounded on the field.

The Opposition party is regaining courage, and sharply attacks the alliance with Germany.

THE GERMAN-DRIVEN BULGARS.

The *Petit Journal's* correspondent at Salonika says:—The desertion movement in the Bulgarian Army continues. The principal causes are the severity of the German officers and the lack of food. Among the deserters who arrived yesterday I was able to have a chat with a University professor, who declared that ever since the military operations have ceased in Macedonia the Bulgarian troops have been exclusively put to road-making, under the supervision of Germans, who kept them for long hours without anything to eat or to smoke. This was the direct cause, naturally, of much discontent. He added that a Bulgarian division and a squadron of German cavalry are all the troops at present at Ghevgeli. The Germans are mostly in the interior of New Serbia, at Uskub, Veles, and Kumanovo, but only in small numbers. They occupy themselves also in the repair of the roads and the circulation of the military trains, in view of an approaching Bulgaro-German offensive, which, however, is very doubtful. The Bulgarians expect, on the contrary, an offensive by the Allies; and in the meantime the frequent visits of the French aerial squadrons are causing veritable panics among the Bulgarian troops.

POSITION IN GERMANY.

HEAVIER PROFITS FOR BREWERS.

15 PER CENT. DIVIDENDS.

A Reuter's Zurich message says:—

Food prices in Munich are so high, and the suffering amongst the poorer classes—especially the wives and families of reservists—so acute, that the Burgomaster has issued an appeal to the public for contributions. It is proposed to issue cards twice a month to the most necessitous persons, entitling them to buy various articles of food, in limited quantities, at reduced prices. These cards will include flour, bread, milk, potatoes, malt, coffee, sugar, groats, butter, eggs and jam, but no meat or fats. The prices will be from a quarter to one-third below the usual market rates. It is expected that all the shopkeepers will accept these cards and upon presentation to the municipal authorities they will receive the difference between the special and the ordinary prices. At first the issue of cards will be confined to wives of reservists; but later, if funds permit, other poor persons will be granted the same facility for obtaining food at reasonable prices.

Serious riots are reported to have taken place recently in Hanover, where the municipal authorities have been issuing meat tickets. It appears that there was only one place in the city hall where tickets could be had, and although the crowd of applicants increased every day, no more facilities were offered. The crush became so great that women fainted, and many were injured in climbing over a high barrier to escape the crowd. When a notice board was put up announcing that no more tickets would be issued a deafening outcry was made. About 1,000 persons, mostly women, succeeded in forcing their way into the main hall of the building, and remained there, shrieking and screaming for meat tickets. Others ran through the corridors from office to office, demanding to see the Burgomaster. Only with the greatest difficulty were the police able to clear the building.

Despite all the complaints of the German brewers as to bad trade and the consequent necessity for raising prices it appears that the breweries have, after all, been doing a very profitable business. Out of a total of 340 breweries in the Empire, whose capital aggregated £16,500,000, 295 (with capital amounting to £16,000,000) returned profits last season, 1914-15, of nearly £2,500,000, or about 15 per cent. In the previous year their profits were nearly a quarter of a million less. The actual sum distributed in dividends last season was £1,180,000, just about £100,000 more than in the preceding year. The rate of profits varied greatly for different breweries. One establishment, with a capital of £160,000, actually made a profit of £130,000, or 81 per cent.

MALTESE AT GALLIPOLI.

SIR BRYAN MAHON'S MESSAGE OF PRAISE.

A Reuter's Malta message says:—

During the operations in Gallipoli a Maltese labour corps was formed and sent to the peninsula, where it rendered good service. Lord Methuen, the Governor of Malta, has now received a letter from the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. After informing him that the need for the services of the corps has now ceased, and that arrangements for its disbandment have been made, Sir Bryan Mahon thanks Lord Methuen for his personal trouble in raising the battalion, and adds:—"I have much pleasure in informing you that the battalion performed the most excellent work, both at Anzac and elsewhere."

Sir Bryan then asks that his high appreciation of the work of the corps may be conveyed to the commanding officer, and through him to the non-commissioned officers and men of the battalion.

IRELAND'S ROLL OF HONOUR.



Captain P. A. C. MAGINN, London Irish Rifles, wounded in France, is the son of Mr. J. Maginn, Agent, Bank of Ireland, Ballina.



Flight Commander Albert Erskine Carson ARCHER, Royal Flying Corps, killed in France, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Archer, Beaufield, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin.



Trooper Harold Johnstone MILES, Canterbury Mounted Rifles, New Zealand Force, died of wounds received at Gallipoli, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Miles, Southend-on-Sea, and nephew of Mrs. O'Keeffe, Garrison Rectory, Belleek, Co. Fermanagh.



Lance-Corporal Walter GROSS, 2nd Leinster Regiment, wounded in France, is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Gross, 161 Richmond road, Dublin.



Private Robert BELL, 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers, missing in France. News will be thankfully received by his mother, Mrs. Bell, Upper Cullen road, Kilbride, Co. Wicklow.



Rifleman R. PIERCY, 6th Royal Irish Rifles, invalided from Salonika to Cairo, frostbitten, is the only son of Mr. C. Piercy, 3 Claude road, Glasnevin, Dublin.

Weekly Irish Times Series.

GERMAN LOSSES.

LYING OFFICIAL STATEMENTS.

REMARKABLE EXPOSURE.

It is considered in France, telegraphs Mr. H. Warner Allen (the special representative of the British Press with the French armies), that the serious inaccuracy of the German casualty lists is definitely established. It seems, however, if one may judge from articles recently published in the London Press, that in England the accuracy or inaccuracy of these lists is still a matter of doubt. Indeed, in some cases it appears to be suggested that they are as accurate as the English lists, on which no doubt has ever been thrown.

I have received, on unquestionable authority, figures which make it at least legitimate to regard with the gravest suspicion all information provided by the enemy as to his losses. The Germans pride themselves on the frank and open fashion in which they announce their losses to the world, and compare it, with considerable self-satisfaction, with the silence of the French in these matters. The French, however, despite these protestations, have been patiently engaged in putting the German statistics to a practical test.

They have often noticed that the total German losses in killed, wounded, missing, and prisoners announced for a given regiment during a given period is considerably less than the number of prisoners alone taken from that same regiment during the same time. The result has been that the department specially charged with this task has been able again and again to convict the official German casualty lists of flagrant and deliberate omissions by merely comparing them with the French lists of prisoners.

TEST CASES.

The following statistics concern four regiments which have been continuously engaged on the Western front:—The 108th Regiment of the 12th German Army Corps lost during a certain period 403 prisoners according to the French official records. The German casualty lists acknowledged during the same period 259 prisoners, and of these 28 are not included in the French returns. There is a shortage, therefore, of 144 men, or 35.7 per cent. of the total.

The 112th Regiment of the 14th German Army Corps lost 234 prisoners according to the French, but the German lists acknowledge only 48, of whom 34 do not figure in the French records. In this case there is an omission of 186, or 79.4 per cent.

The 144th Regiment of the 16th Army Corps lost 94 prisoners, of whom only five figure in the German lists, and the other 89 men, or 94.6 of the total, are supposed by their misguided countrymen to be still fighting, whereas they are certainly in French hands.

The 153rd Regiment of the Fourth German Army Corps lost 196 prisoners, but the Germans officially acknowledged only 58 of these, of whom six are not named in the French returns. Therefore, 138, or 70.4 per cent. of the 153rd, have been omitted from the German list.

ENEMY'S CASUALTIES.

MR. H. BELLOC ON OFFICIAL SUPPRESSIONS.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc devotes a large portion of his weekly review of the war published in *Land and Water* to adducing proofs of the falsity of the German official casualty lists. He writes:—

It occurred to those who were following this matter in detail that the most conclusive tests of the accuracy or falsity of the German lists would be afforded if it were possible to analyse with exactitude the statistics of prisoners now in the hands of the Allies. It was a category in which there would be a special temptation to inexactitude, and therefore one which, if it proved accurate, would be a conclusive test in favour of the German official record. The task was not an easy one, because the prisoners taken from a particular unit would be taken at various times, and also because the units were in many cases moved from east to west and *vice versa*. In order to be certain of one's result one had further to be very careful not to confuse the active, reserve, and Landwehr regiments of the same number.

A series of units were therefore chosen with regard to which one could be certain that they had never left the front upon which they were originally engaged, and that there was no confusion between active, reserve, and Landwehr fractions. The calculation was made with much more than the ordinary allowance of delay in the publication of names, because it was rightly imagined that this category of losses would appear upon the lists more slowly than any other.

Now here is the result:—A list was drawn up by the French authorities giving the names, regiments, etc., of a great number of prisoners drawn from the units thus chosen. This list was then carefully compared with the names appearing in the German lists. The difference between this complete French list and the admitted losses upon the official German lists was not only greater than in any other category, but was almost ludicrous. It was over 60 per cent. Out of every hundred names of prisoners detailed by the French, 30.8 only appeared as corresponding names upon the German list of losses!

NO RECORD GIVEN.

There were very great differences between different units. In the worst case the German commander, for some reason best known to himself or the German Central Authorities, had virtually suppressed all they could of the capture: less than 6 per cent. of the real numbers were admitted upon the lists—94 per cent. were not recorded by the enemy! In the best case nearly 65 per cent. were admitted, and only just over 35 per cent. were omitted from the enemy's record. But the average was that which I have given above.

Very nearly 70 per cent. of the names standing upon the French lists, and representing prisoners actually in the French camps were found to be omitted from the German lists.

I shall show next week what this loss of certainly one million, in dead by December 31, 1915, means in total losses to the German army up to that date, but meanwhile a word may not be amiss upon the signification of that figure of one million dead in 17 months of war.

It does not mean anything excessive in comparison with the general losses in this war. It is a somewhat higher amount in proportion than the losses of the Allies in the West—but then the Germans have been fighting on two and even three fronts. It is more than they themselves admit—but only 19 per cent. more. It does not mean that a mobilised force of nine millions is exhausted in men (though nearly exhausted in reserves). There is nothing marvellous or abnormal, as this campaign goes, that a force should lose by death .64 per cent. (or, say, one man in 155—for that is all it comes to) per month of the fighting.

What would be remarkable, abnormal, and actually miraculous would be the ridiculous figure of half a million which was current a short time ago. It would be utterly incredible in connection with the known losses of the Allies and with the known character of the fighting. Such statements are only put forward to defend a brief or to support a policy. That sort of bias is worthless in war. All that should be tolerated in so extreme a peril is the sober grasp of reality.

FLIGHT COMMANDER A. E. C. ARCHER.

Flight Commander Albert Erskine Carson Archer, Royal Flying Corps, who was killed in France on the 9th February, was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Archer, Beaufield, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin, and was aged 19 years and 11 months. Shortly after the outbreak of war he offered his services. He was gazetted to "The Buffs" and attached to the Royal Flying Corps. Some months previous to being sent to the front he was attached to a squadron which was taking part in the air defence of London, and while there he was promoted Flight Commander. In a letter of condolence to Mrs. Archer his Squadron Commander (Major Hawker, V.C., D.S.O.) wrote:—Your son is a great loss, both to the squadron and his country. Popular and cheerful, he was one of my very best pilots, and I greatly appreciated his pluck and resourcefulness in carrying out any duty entrusted to him. As you probably know, he was in command of one of my flights, and though he was very young, I had intended that he should be promoted captain at the end of the month. His death was instantaneous.

THE KAISER'S GENERALS.

MEN WHO HAVE BEEN UNDER A CLOUD.

The *Cri de Paris* publishes an interesting article on the Kaiser's Generals, showing that most of those now occupying high positions had, before the war, been placed on the retired list by their Imperial master for incompetence or similar reasons.

"Hindenburg," says the article, "commanding the 4th Army Corps at Magdeburg, was placed on the retired list after holding a command for eight years, for not having given proof of character. He was then 63 years old. The Kaiser ordered him to call before a court-martial a lieutenant of the 4th Pioneers who had resigned his commission, and who refused to accept the designation and duties of a retired lieutenant. Hindenburg considered the charge a flimsy one, certain to result in an acquittal, and refused to obey Imperial orders. The Kaiser then had the lieutenant tried for lèse-majesté, and his judges acquitted him. Two days later Hindenburg was placed on the retired list.

"Von Bissing had been in retirement eight years when appointed Military Governor of Belgium. After having brilliantly commanded the 7th Corps at Münster he was, in November, 1907, suddenly asked to seek retirement. He protested, and caused a scandal in consequence, and as punishment the Kaiser withheld the usual coveted decoration accorded to retired commanders.

"General von Falkenhausen, commanding in North Alsace, had been on the retired list 13 years when the war broke out, having suddenly been relieved of his command of the Württemberg Corps after holding it for only three months.

"General Gäde, commanding in South Alsace, was also placed on the retired list for incapacity in 1909 when in command of a division at Metz.

"The Bavarian General von Bothmer, commanding an army on the Russian front, was in the past judged incapable of commanding an army corps, but, being a favourite of the Munich Court, he was made chief of the Royal Corps of Archers, composed of 100 old non-commissioned officers armed with halberds.

"Finally, von der Goltz retired from the active list in 1913 on the ground of fatigue."—Central News.

GERMAN INTRIGUES IN MOROCCO.

FAILURE OF THE "HOLY WAR."

Mr. H. Warner Allen, special correspondent of the British Press with the French armies, writes with reference to the position of affairs in Morocco that long before August, 1914, the Germans had made their preparations for the declaration of a Holy War in Morocco and the overthrowing of the French Protectorate; and the results obtained by German bribery and intrigues up to the end of January, 1916, he describes in the following brief narrative, which is based on official documents and other trustworthy information kindly placed at his disposal.

The ideal at which the Germans were aiming was expressed by one of them in the following terms: "If there is war, we must arrange that not a single Frenchman leaves the Shawia alive." For the accomplishment of this simple formula, with the general massacre of civilians, women and children that it implied, the German plans had been carefully worked out. Every pretender to the Throne of the Sherifian Empire, every malcontent chief, and every religious fanatic were to be provided with money and arms long before smuggled in for the purpose.

German psychology, however, overlooked the fact that French rule by its justice and humanity had gained the respect of the tribes, and whilst enemy efforts succeeded in producing a series of sporadic revolts, inevitable in a barbarous country under European rule during a general European war, none really threatened the position of France in Morocco. The French indeed have actually extended their régime in Morocco, the agitation due to German intrigues having compelled them to bring within their territories tribes hitherto unsubdued. Thus in May the Branes country, north of Taza, was occupied; between April and August the French troops advanced into the Guigo without firing a shot, setting up a barrier between the rebel tribes and the suburbs of Fez. These are only two instances, and many others might be given.

Of all the many pretenders and malcontents who have from time immemorial infested the Sherifian Empire, the Germans had chosen out as their special *protégé* Abdul Malek, grandson of the Emir Abdul Kader, who fought so gallantly against the French in Algeria. He was to be the leader of the Holy War. On March 10, 1915, Abdul Malek left Tangier for the mountains, but there he promptly got into trouble with some of the local tribes, who held him fast until July. Then, not without paying heavy ransom, he was released and reached the Riata country in the Fez district. There he announced himself as the agent of Turkey, and promised to every would-be rebel arms and ammunition and the support of Germany and Turkey. But the Moors had discovered that the power of France was still intact, and they turned a deaf ear to his blandishments.

Last December he managed to collect a scanty force, and raided the borders of the Taza district, only to call down upon himself a swift *riposte* from the French. On December 8th the French forces came into contact with Abdul Malek's *harka* of about 300 horse and 1,500 foot in the Mghraua country. The *harka* was rudely shaken, and most of the Moors composing it fled to their homes in dismay, while the friendly tribes carried out a successful raid into the enemy's country. On January 27 Colonel Simon captured his stronghold at Suk-el-Had with a considerable booty, and Abdul Malek is now a fugitive in the Riff mountains.

THE EGYPTIAN FRONTIER.

TURKISH CAUSE DESERTED BY MANY ARABS.

A Cairo message says:—

Information has been received in Cairo that bodies of local Beduin have been coming in to Matruh during the last few days, and have been taking refuge there from the enemy. In some cases these men have been actually in arms with the enemy, while others were prevented from coming in by the western Arabs, who have been depriving them of their families, and sometimes have even been putting them to death after the most trifling disputes. The long-standing friction between the eastern and western Arabs has now developed into an open revolt on the part of the former, and a petition signed by five sheikhs of one of the Aulad Ali tribes has been brought to Matruh asking for the protection of the Government against their hereditary enemies in the west.

They declare that in addition to their hard treatment they suffered proportionately far heavier losses than the western Arabs, having borne the brunt of the attack in all the engagements. Every sub-tribe of the Aulad Ali now realises its fatal mistake in having joined the enemy, as they were made the stalking horse for Turkish intriguers, who were only concerned in furthering their own ends.

East of Matruh the Beduin are showing no symptoms of following the example of their fellow-tribesmen and joining the enemy, and the areas allotted to them as encampments are filling up satisfactorily. In the Hammam district a market has been established under the supervision of the military authorities, who control the supply of foodstuffs for the people in the camping area.

THE CHURCHES.

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND NOTES.

The following interim report, entitled "Towards Christian Unity," has been issued by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York's Committee and by representatives of the English Free Churches' Commissions in connection with the proposed World Conference on Faith and Order. The conference of the Archbishops' Committee and of certain members of the Commissions of the Free Churches have given a general approval to this statement, and agreed to its publication on the following understanding:—

(1) That for the exact wording the Sub-Committee should alone be responsible.

(2) That the statement is offered not as a creed for subscription, or as committing in any way the Churches thus represented, but as indicating a large measure of substantial agreement, and also as affording material for further investigation and consideration.

Part I.—A Statement of Agreement on Matters of Faith.—We, who belong to different Christian Communions and are engaged in the discussion of questions of Faith and Order, desire to affirm our agreement upon certain foundation truths as the basis of a spiritual and rational creed and life for all mankind. We express them as follows:—

(1) As Christians we believe that, while there is some knowledge of God to be found among all races of men and some measure of Divine grace and help is present to all, a unique, progressive and redemptive revelation of Himself was given by God to the Hebrew people through the agency of inspired prophets, "in many parts and in many manners," and that this revelation reaches its culmination and completeness in One Who is more than a prophet, Who is the Incarnate Son of God, our Saviour and our Lord Jesus Christ.

(2) This distinctive revelation, accepted as the word of God, is the basis of the life of the Christian Church, and is intended to be the formative influence upon the mind and character of the individual believer.

(3) This word of God is contained in the Old and New Testaments, and constitutes the permanent spiritual value of the Bible.

(4) The root and centre of this revelation, as intellectually interpreted, consists in a positive and highly distinctive doctrine of God—His nature, character, and will. From this doctrine of God follows a certain sequence of doctrines concerning creation, human nature and destiny, sin, individual and racial, redemption through the incarnation of the Son of God and His atoning death and resurrection, the mission and operation of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Trinity, the Church, the last things, and Christian life and duty, individual and social; all these cohere with and follow from this doctrine of God.

(5) Since Christianity offers a historical revelation of God, the coherence and sequence of Christian doctrine involve a necessary synthesis of idea and fact such as is presented to us in the New Testament and in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds; and these Creeds, both in their statements of historical fact and in their statements of doctrine, affirm essential elements of the Christian faith, as contained in Scripture, which the Church could never abandon without abandoning its basis in the word of God.

(6) We hold that there is no contradiction between the acceptance of the miracles recited in the Creeds and the acceptance of the principle of order in nature as assumed in scientific inquiry, and we hold equally that the acceptance of miracles is not forbidden by the historical evidence candidly and impartially investigated by critical methods.

Part II.—A Statement of Agreement on Matters Relating to Order.—With thankfulness to the Head of the Church for the spirit of unity He has shed abroad in our hearts, we go on to express our common conviction on the following matters:—

(1) That it is the purpose of our Lord that believers in Him should be, as in the beginning they were, one visible society—His body with many members—which in every age and place should maintain the communion of saints in the unity of the Spirit, and should be capable of a common witness and a common activity.

(2) That our Lord ordained, in addition to the preaching of His Gospel, the Sacraments of Baptism and of the Lord's Supper, as not only declaratory symbols, but also effective channels of His grace and gifts for the salvation and sanctification of men, and that these Sacraments, being essentially social ordinances, were intended to affirm the obligation of corporate fellowship as well as individual confession of Him.

(3) That our Lord, in addition to the bestowal of the Holy Spirit in a variety of gifts and graces upon the whole Church, also conferred upon it by the self-same Spirit a Ministry of manifold gifts and functions, to maintain the unity and continuity of its witness and work.

Part III.—A Statement of Differences in Relation to Matters of Order which require further Study and Discussion.—Fidelity to our convictions and sincerity in their expression compel us to recognise that there still remain differences in respect of these matters:—

(1) As regards the nature of this visible Society, how far it involves uniformity or allows variety in polity, creed, and worship.

(2) As regards the Sacraments—the conditions, objective and subjective, in their ministration and reception on which their validity depends.

(3) As regards the Ministry—whether it derives its authority through an episcopal or a presbyteral succession or through the community of believers or by a combination of these.

We desire to report accordingly and we submit:—

(1) That this report be made known to the public.

(2) That further inquiry should be directed to examining the implications in the matter agreed, and to the possibility of lessening or removing the differences by explanation.

The report is signed by the Bishop of Bath and Wells (Chairman), the Bishops of Winchester and Oxford, Dr. W. T. Davison, Principal A. E. Garvie, Dr. J. Scott Lidgett, the Rev. J. H. Shakespeare, the Rev. C. Anderson Scott, Dr. Eugene Stock, and the Rev. Tissington Tatlow (Hon. Secretary).

Mr. Kensit, who wrote last week to the Archbishop of Canterbury relative to the orthodoxy of the Rev. R. J. Campbell, has received the following letter from the Bishop of Birmingham:—

"Bishop's Court, Birmingham, February 17, 1916.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I have seen your letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury and also his reply, but I think it is only courteous that I should send you a few lines myself. There is no truth in the statement in the Press that Mr. Campbell's ordination is to be private; in fact, he is not the only candidate to be ordained. A searching examination has been made by four distinguished clergy into the present belief of Mr. Campbell, and they are perfectly satisfied as to his orthodoxy. Some time ago, in fact before Mr. Campbell was restored to communion with the English Church by the Bishop of Oxford, the book which Mr. Campbell wrote some years ago was withdrawn by him. Naturally, the whole matter has given me considerable anxiety, and has required close attention, but I am quite prepared to assure you that no one need have any doubt as to Mr. Campbell's present orthodoxy.—Yours sincerely,

"H. R. BIRMINGHAM."

The death of Sir George Clement Martin, Mus. Doc., organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, took place in London after a short illness. He was born in 1844 at Lambourn, in Berks, and was comparatively unknown, except to musicians, when he was appointed in 1888 to the post which he held so long and with such honour. He had been a master of the choristers since 1874. He worthily upheld the high tradition of Goss and Stainer, and though some of the more advanced musicians of the younger generation did not approve of all his methods, the music of St. Paul's has a world-wide reputation. All musicians owe him a debt of gratitude for his constant support of the theory that organists must know something about the human voice. It seems a platitude, but it was not always believed.

He came most prominently before the public in connection with the Diamond Jubilee of 1897, when he conducted the choir of eminent musicians which greeted Queen Victoria outside the cathedral. On this occasion he received his knighthood. At the Coronations of King Edward VII. and King George he naturally took a less prominent part, singing in the choirs conducted by Sir Frederick Bridge at Westminster Abbey on both occasions. He was a man of conspicuous charm of manner and modesty, and he was much beloved by successive generations of choristers, many of whom owe him their start in life. He was to the end a fine shot, a keen golfer, and photographer. He was made Doctor of Music by Archbishop Benson, and in 1912 the University of Oxford made him an Honorary Doctor, and Queen Victoria conferred the M.V.O. on him. The last office he performed was to conduct the musical portion of the service at St. Paul's Cathedral on St. Paul's Day (January 25).

WORKING 1,800 SHIPS.

HOW THE ADMIRALTY TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS RUN.

COMPLEX TASK.

Mr. T. Paterson Purdie, President of the Clyde Steamship Owners' Association, Glasgow, and a member of the Ship Licensing Committee at the Board of Trade, has issued a report on the working of the Admiralty Transport Department, in which he says:—

Since war broke out I have had occasion in my official capacity to have frequent interviews and negotiations with the Transport Department on behalf of the members of my association, which represents about one and three-quarter million gross register tons of merchant ships of all types. I have had an opportunity of seeing in detail the system in force in the Transport Department for requisitioning and dealing with merchant ships required for naval, military, and other Government purposes.

After a thorough examination I was most favourably impressed with the ingenious and simple system in force at the Transport Department, which is divided into sections for the special control of the different types of ships—and, in my opinion, the entire system is eminently suitable and practical for the effective carrying out of the particular work and duty which the Transport Department is called upon to perform.

DETAILS OF THE SYSTEM.

I put several questions and made certain suggestions, but it was proved to me that the points I brought out were fully provided for, and formed part and parcel of the system, some details of which—as near as I can give them—are:—

(1) A card index is maintained with a card for every ship in the mercantile marine. The cards are distinguished in 23 classes by colours and "tabs"; and movable coloured signals, which are changed day by day, follow the movements of the ships and show at a glance in what area of the world each ship is at any moment. This card index enables the Transport Department, when new requirements have to be met, to obtain at short notice a complete list of all the possible suitable vessels.

(2) Full information is registered and brought up to date by monthly returns from each owner, and also by reports each day as actual charters are made, showing on what employment their vessels are engaged; so that the Transport Department has full information in a readily accessible form of just what each of the 6,000 or so possible vessels is doing.

(3) An elaborate system is also maintained to show at a glance what previous service under requisition each owner has done in the period during which market rates have risen considerably above requisition rates. This system takes into account the number of ships in the owner's fleet, the time each of them has been engaged, the size of the ships, and also the number on service at the moment.

(4) Before new requirements are met a special list is made out from the above records showing all the possible vessels which are of the right type and in the right position for the services in question. On such a list are shown:—

(a) The service on which the vessel is engaged.

(b) What cargo she would be carrying if left free from requisition.

(c) Her size, type, etc.

(d) Her exact position, and lastly

(e) A figure showing just how the owners' previous service compares with other owners' service.

This list is then examined with great care, so that the Transport Department may choose—first of all—the ships that are most suitable for the service and the proper position; secondly, those whose requisitioning involves the least possible disturbance of other important service and least dislocation of industry; and, thirdly, so far as these primary considerations allow, those which belong to owners who have done less than the average amount of previous service for the Government.

(5) A vessel is never requisitioned except on the expert advice that she is entirely suitable for the service or the most suitable of those available, and after the most careful consideration of the effect the requisition will have upon the industry of the country and its ordinary oversea trades.

(6) Around the walls of the Statistical Department were full lists with the ships' names and positions, corrected and kept up to date as telegrams came in daily and nightly advising the movements of each ship.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S CONTROL.

Once a ship is requisitioned the nature of the control exercised by the Transport Department necessarily depends upon the particular work to which it is allotted. If it is sent to bring stores to this country the work is more or less commercial in character, and the vessel can be as completely controlled and as effectively managed as under commercial conditions.

If, however, the vessel is allotted to attend on the Fleet it is obvious that its management must depend upon many considerations which do not have to be taken into account in commercial undertakings. It must partly depend upon strategical necessities, and be largely, therefore, determined by the arrangements of the naval authorities, though there is, in fact, a very close and constant supervision at the Admiralty. Similarly, it is obvious that a vessel engaged in immediate association with military operations often cannot be managed in the same way or upon the same principles as if it were engaged in a commercial enterprise.

The release or return or even the discharge of that ship is dependent on the dominating circumstances existing at the position to which she has gone. What may seem to us shipping men a serious loss of time is considered by our service commanders a vital necessity for the successful prosecution of their work, as the entire forces under their respective commands, and their fighting value, may depend on the vessel's being kept at the base mobile and ready for any emergency or sudden movement that may eventuate.

With regard to the vessels that are requisitioned for civil work, such as the carriage of foodstuffs, wheat, grain, sugar, etc., or for nitrates and materials for the Munitions Departments, these are operated on commercial lines, as the Transport Department has appointed as agents shipping firms of the highest standing and full local knowledge and experience at all the principal ports at home and abroad, who attend to the loading, discharging, and other work incidental to ship management, with the view of operating each ship on strictly business lines to ensure its most economical use.

To control 1,800 ships of all types and classes is a stupendous undertaking, even when that control is paramount throughout every operation of the ships; but when this gigantic fleet is split up and passes in groups and sections from the Transport Department to local commanders in charge of naval and military affairs—whose special requirements dominate their working—then one realises how very unfair and uncalled for all the acrid criticism of the Admiralty Transport Department is, and the misconception of the actual state of affairs by the critics.

SEQUEL TO BOY AND GIRL MARRIAGE.

A remarkable story of a boy and girl marriage had a sequel on Saturday in the Divorce Courts, Edinburgh. The petitioner was Samuel Arthur Hardy, a Glasgow cycle agent, and the respondent is believed to be in Australia. The marriage took place in 1909, when petitioner was sixteen and respondent fourteen, although she registered as sixteen. A decree was granted on the grounds of desertion.

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...will purchase the dream of the Light Car World—in other words the SCRIPPS-BOOTH, the Car that has sent American Society crazy and the British public wondering how it's done.
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PARLOURMAIDS WANTED
WANTED CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COLUMN 1.

AUCTIONS.
J. KEOGH'S SALE ... TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, 10 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.
W J. KEOGH, AUCTIONEER, 10 LR. ORMOND QUAY.
SALES FRIDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1916. RENT OF £22 3s. 6D., arising out of Business Premises, 137 LOWER BAGGOT STREET.
RETIRING FROM BUSINESS. ESTABLISHED FURNITURE WAREROOMS KNOWN AS CARROLL'S, 31 UPPER LIFFEY STREET.
TO CAPITALISTS AND OTHERS. 109 & 111 UPPER DORSET STREET.
SITUATED FULLY LICENSED PREMISES, 71 UPPER DORSET STREET.
ARTHUR'S SALE. 3RD MARCH. HOTEL, RESTAURANT, AND GOOD SHOP PROPERTY.
PROFITABLE INVESTMENT. UPPER GARDINER STREET.
ARRAN QUAY.
THIS DAY (SATURDAY). EXTENSIVE AND IMPORTANT AUCTION. HIGH-CLASS MODERN FURNITURE AND VALUABLE APPOINTMENTS.
JOHN P. CUSACK, AUCTIONEER, 73 PRUSSIA STREET.
HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE. VALUABLE FEE-SIMPLE PROPERTY.
TO BE LET OR SOLD. CROMONA HOUSE.

The Irish Times.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1916.

The Fight for Verdun.

The German drive at Verdun is again in full progress. By Thursday the first fury of the German attack had spent its force. The French front was securely re-established on a new line some six or seven miles to the north of the fortress. Our Ally's losses, particularly in prisoners, though heavy, had not been excessive in view of the extreme desperation of the fighting. The enemy's losses, on the other hand, had been by all accounts enormous; whole divisions, advancing to the assault in massed formation, had been swept away by the merciless fire of the French machine-guns and "seventy-fives." Though the enemy had effected an unprecedented concentration of artillery, including the famous 17-inch guns employed in the great Russian "drive" last year, and had brought into the field huge numbers of men, totalling seven Army Corps, the very violence of the first offensive and its terrific punishment seemed to have resulted in a certain confusion of the attack. There ensued on Thursday, at all events, a lull in the operations. It was clear by this time that the purpose upon which the Germans were engaged was nothing less than the capture of Verdun and the forcing of a decisive breach in the French front. French military opinion inclined to the belief that this, the supreme German effort was already broken. In any case it confronted the prospect of a renewal of the attempt with undisturbed confidence. The French possessed a virtually inexhaustible supply of shells, and reinforcements of men were continually pouring into the threatened sector. Moreover, the retirement had not been without its advantages. The withdrawal of the French front from the wooded and broken country further to the north had brought the Germans face to face with the open country which forms a natural *glacis* on the northern side of the fortress.

The renewal, if possible with increased ferocity, of the German effort on Friday and its continuance throughout yesterday, do not prove that the French confidence in the ultimate issue is misplaced; but they do show that in this perilous encounter the crisis is not yet passed which must be passed before our Allies and ourselves can breathe freely again with the assurance that Verdun is safe. On Friday the German attack pressed back the defence to an average extent of about a mile along the front of action, which now embraces, in addition to the northern face of the fortress, the east face, towards which the French forces in the Woevre plain have been withdrawn. On Saturday the attack reached, and took, the fort of Douaumont, the north-east fort of the ring around Verdun, about five miles from the city. This news, in view of the unvarying experience hitherto in this war of the results of a breach in the works of fortresses of the ring type, inspired a natural fear that the doom of Verdun was sealed. In every earlier case the fall of one in the ring of forts has involved the fall of the fortress itself. But there is to be remembered this point of capital importance—that the experience of the past fate of fortresses in this war has not gone for nothing with their defenders. At Verdun there was first elaborated, under General Sarrail, that system, now for the first time put to the test, by which fortress protection was transferred from fixed fortifications to field works and mobile defences. The terms in which last night's French *communiqué* describes Douaumont are especially to be noted in this connection. The fort of Douaumont is described as "an advanced element of the old defensive organisation of the Verdun fortress." There is no basis of experience as a guide to the *rôle* which such an element is intended to fulfil in the new, wholly different, and hitherto untried, defensive organisation. But clearly the same importance does not attach to one of a ring of forts as there did under the old system which relied exclusively on fixed fortification. How radically the situation is altered is shown by the welcome news that Douaumont has been recaptured by the French. Again the phrasing employed is to be noted: the term "recaptured" is not used. The French troops are described as having "reached and passed" Douaumont—which is thus regarded not as an integral part of a fortress scheme, but as a position comparable to any other position in a field battle. All attempts of the enemy to make the French fall back from before Douaumont have so far failed. Along the whole front our Allies, fighting with a cool tenacity and courage which have never been surpassed, are counter-attacking with success. The issue of this titanic struggle for Verdun still hangs in the balance. We can but watch the progress of the fight on which, it is scarcely too much to say, depends the whole future of the campaign in France.

THE KING AND RUSSIAN JOURNALISTS.

The Times of Saturday says that the King, in addressing the Russian journalists at the audience recently given to them at Buckingham Palace, said—"I am happy to welcome you in my home, and to express to you the deep admiration which we feel for the achievements of the gallant Russian troops. I congratulate you on the capture of Erzerum. You will be able to see my troops drilling, my fleet, and the work of the munition factories, which now exceed 2,000 in number, and you will be able to satisfy yourself what my people are doing for the common cause. I consider your visit a very important one, because you will be able to see everything with your own eyes. In my correspondence with the Emperor I have often spoken of the importance of a mutual knowledge betwen our two peoples. Your visit will, no doubt, contribute to this knowledge. I am convinced that the *Entente* between the three peoples of Russia, France, and Great Britain will live after the war, and will prove to be necessary for our common interests. It will help us now to attain our final object of vanquishing the enemy."

INVESTITURE BY THE KING.

The King held an investiture at Buckingham Palace on Saturday, at which he personally decorated about 30 officers for distinguished service during the war.

WILSON LINER SUNK.

The Wilson liner Dido has been sunk. Part of the crew only has been saved.

The Dido was built at Hull, where she was registered in 1896. She was of steel, with screw propeller, and engines of 250 horse-power. Her dimensions were:—Length, 400 ft. 7 in.; breadth, 48 ft.; depth of hold, 26 ft. 8 in.; and she had a tonnage of 4,769 gross and [illegible]7 net.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

153 FLEET STREET, LONDON,
SATURDAY NIGHT.

The cost of such further successes as the Germans have gained in their renewed drive for Verdun must have been gigantic. Wave after wave of the finest regiments in the Kaiser's Army advanced to almost certain death from the French 75's and machine guns. I notice that one German account speaks of the losses being small, and another of their being normal. Normal for this kind of strategy, which treats soldiers as mere cannon-fodder, they may have been, but anything but small. Some of the German papers are more candid, and admit that the casualties are heavy; and one declares, probably with perfect truth, that the German regiments are fighting in a sea of fire.

It will be noticed that the German *communiqué* speaks of an advance by a British detachment east of Armentières last night, and claims that it was repulsed. If this refers to one of our nocturnal bombing attacks, there is nothing much in it. In these enterprises our bombers are always "repulsed" after they have done their work and cleared out the enemy trench. But it is, of course, quite likely that a larger operation than usual was undertaken on this occasion, for it would, of course, be General Haig's desire to do all in his power to tie the Germans in front of him to their existing positions and prevent them from reinforcing the attack on Verdun. It may have been in expectation of a British attack that 16,000 Landsturm belonging to the garrison of Liége are reported to have left yesterday for the Yser front.

Whether it was wise of Sir Francis Lloyd, the General Commanding the London District, to draw such a gloomy picture yesterday of what might happen if Verdun fell is, perhaps, questionable. Most of us, while quite alive to the importance of this present fighting, would not admit that the fate of Paris, still less of London, depends upon its result. Our French Allies appear to be viewing the situation with admirable coolness and confidence, and it is not for us to grow hysterical.

William the Second, in the early days of his reign, used to be known as "*der reise Kaiser*" in contradistinction to his grandfather, "*der greise Kaiser*," and his grandfather, "*der weise Kaiser*," because he was always rushing from one end of his realm to the other. If the reports current about him now are authentic, he has become more restless than ever. A few days ago he was said to be in Belgium. Thence he dashed off to Wilhelmshaven to inspect his Fleet, and thence again to the scene of the present fighting, where he first conducted a rehearsal of the attack on Verdun, and then superintended the real thing. One hopes that he will remain there, for never yet has his presence at an action presaged its final success.

More than ordinary interest attaches to the alleged visit to his Fleet. There is some plausibility in the theory that the attack on Verdun is the beginning of a final effort on the part of the Germans. General von Deimling, in an Army Order, speaks of "this, your last offensive against the French," though too much importance must not be attached to rhetorical phrases of this kind. Still, if this were really "the beginning of the end," it is extremely probable that the German Fleet, as well as the German Army, would be called upon to take part in it. In this case, the much-advertised "new frightfulness" which is to commence on March 1st might be merely a blind intended to divert the attention of the Admiralty to the trade routes and induce it to relax its vigilance in the North Sea. Admiral Jellicoe is not going to be caught napping, however, whether by submarines or super-Dreadnoughts armed with 17-inch guns.

Little is known on this side of the North Sea of German naval shipbuilding activities, but it would be a surprising fact if Germany has not used the past eighteen months to turn out many war vessels of a type which have been proved to be necessary owing to naval developments. Many people are of opinion that the Germans cannot build vessels at the same rate as ourselves owing to lack of facilities, but this is not correct. In 1909 Mr. Balfour, then Leader of the Opposition, stated in the House that Germany's capacity for building and arming ships was almost equal to our own, and since that time her resources have been increased. In this connection it may be mentioned that last year saw a considerable amount of work done for Germany in the Dutch shipbuilding yards. Most of the work was of the tug, barge, and lighter type for use on the Rhine, but the work could have been done in the yards in Germany if the latter had not been employed on naval work. Under these conditions it is probable that Germany has made considerable additions to her Navy; but Great Britain has not stood still.

Some curious results of the snow-storm which has been raging in London for the last two days are reported. The London Fire Brigade were called out ten times this morning by false alarms, due to the snow having "short-circuited"—if that is the correct phrase—the electrical indicators. Then, the tramway service has been frequently upset owing to the mixture of salt and water getting into the conduits and deranging the electricity. Noticeable, too, was the absence of able-bodied road-sweepers. In many places women were engaged in sweeping the pavements, while in the City the work was being done, with more or less efficiency, by parties composed, like the new levies of the German Army, of elderly men and immature boys.

The French Minister of War has just issued a new Order that might, perhaps, be followed with advantage here. A soldier who has been wounded is granted stripes for his sleeve, according to the times he has received a wound. The ordinary stripes in the French Army are black, but the wound stripes are red, and worn on the lower portion of the sleeve.

During the next few days a representative of the Netherlands Oversea Trust, the body to whom all goods are consigned in Holland, after being allowed to pass by the British Fleet, will arrive in London to consult the Government on proposals made for the settlement of certain difficulties in connection with the work of the Trust. One relates to the embargo placed upon the shipment of gold from the United States to Holland by France and Great Britain. It was believed that the ultimate destination of this gold was Germany. The Trust is anxious to produce evidence that the real need for gold shipment is due to the state of exchange at Amsterdam, which has made it necessary for United States importers to remit gold in payment of their purchases in Holland.

Mr. Tennant will be asked on Tuesday if he will extend the age for enlistment to forty-five years, seeing that enemy countries have already called up men of that age, or even beyond.

FIERCE BATTLE FOR VERDUN.

GERMANS CLAIM A FORT.

VIGOROUS FRENCH ATTACK.

ENORMOUS ENEMY LOSSES.

PARIS CONFIDENT.

BRITISH REPEL AIR RAID.

The British on Friday night sprang three mines in the neighbourhood of Loos, with satisfactory results. On Saturday they repulsed an air raid on their trenches near Maricourt.

The French afternoon despatch on Saturday showed that severe fighting still continued to the north of Verdun, where the German effort was directed to the front to the east of the Meuse. The French troops were holding out on their positions against repeated onslaughts, made regardless of sacrifice. The Fighting near Douaumont is particularly fierce.

On the Woevre front the French forces have been brought nearer to the foot of the Meuse hills, without attack by the enemy.

The 11 o'clock report states that the bombardment continues without relaxation to the east and west of the Meuse, in the region north of Verdun. A desperate struggle is raging round Douaumont fort. The position captured in the morning by the Germans has been again reached and passed by the French troops.

The Germans on Friday announced the capture of several villages in the neighbourhood of Verdun, including Ornes. They claim also to have taken in all 10,000 prisoners and a large amount of war material.

Their report issued on Saturday admits that the French, by an attack to the south of Sainte Marie-Py, which the Germans had already captured, succeeded in penetrating the front line trenches over a width of 250 metres.

To the west of the Meuse considerable advances were made in the battle front in presence of the Emperor. A group of fortified positions was carried east of Louvimont.

The Brandenburg Regiment, it is added, has captured by storm, and held, the armoured fort of Douaumont, known as the Turret fortress.

BRITISH REPORT.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE,
SATURDAY, 9.43 P.M.

Last night we sprang three mines in the neighbourhood of Loos, with satisfactory results.

This morning an enemy raid on our trenches south-east of Maricourt was repulsed.

There has been artillery activity by both sides about Ypres during the day.

FRENCH REPORTS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The French *communiqué* issued this afternoon says:—

Severe fighting still continues in the region to the north of Verdun, where the enemy is still directing his efforts against the front to the east of the Meuse.

According to the latest information our troops are holding out on their positions against the repeated onslaughts by the enemy, regardless of sacrifices.

In the region of Douaumont the fighting in progress has assumed a character of particular fierceness.

On the Woevre front the advanced elements which we held as an observation line from Ornes to Hennemont since the fighting of last year have been brought nearer to the foot of the Meuse hills, by order of the commander, without attack by the enemy.

Our artillery on the left and right banks of the Meuse is replying unceasingly to the enemy bombardment.

There is nothing to report on the rest of the front.

11 P.M.

In Artois there was mine fighting. We exploded two mine galleries, one to the west of the Lille road, and the second to the east of Neuville St. Vaast, under a communication trench held by the enemy.

In Champagne we completely repulsed an enemy attack on the salient captured by us to the south of St. Marie à Py. The total number of prisoners taken by us in this affair amounts to 340, including nine officers and thirty-six non-commissioned officers. Destructive fire was carried out against the German works to the north of the Villa sur Tourbe, and in the region of Mont Tatu.

In the region to the north of Verdun the bombardment continues without relaxation to the east and west of the Meuse.

Our troops reply to the enemy attacks by vigorous counter-attacks at the different points of our front that are assailed. All the fresh attempts of the Germans in the region of Champ Neuville and against the Poivre Halle, where we are solidly established, have been repulsed.

A desperate struggle is raging round the Douaumont fort, which is an advanced element of the old defensive organisation of the Verdun fortress. The position captured this morning by the enemy after several fruitless assaults, which cost him very great losses, has been again reached and passed by our troops, and all attempts of the enemy have failed to make them fall back.

North-east of St. Mihiel our heavy artillery bombarded enemy hangars and depôts near Vigneulles. The Germans fired several heavy shells in the direction of Luneville and of Nancy.

To-day in the region of Verdun Adjutant Navarre, on a monoplane, brought down with machine gun fire two German aeroplanes. This makes five enemy aeroplanes brought down by this pilot. The enemy machines fell in our lines. Two of the aviators who manned them were killed. The two others were taken prisoners.

During the day also one of our air squadrons, consisting of nine bombarding aeroplanes, dropped 144 bombs on the station of Metz Sablon. Another of our squadrons bombarded the enemy establishments of Chambley, north-west of Pont-à-Mousson.

The Minister of Marine announces that the British steamer Fastnet has been sunk.

GERMAN DESPATCHES.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY (DELAYED).

The German *communiqué* says:—

On the right bank of the Meuse the gains yesterday reported were extended in several directions.

Fortified villages and the farms of Champneuville sur Meuse, Cotelettes, Marmot, Beaumont, Chambrettes and Ornes were taken, and the enemy positions as far as the Louvemont ridge were also stormed again.

The losses of the enemy were extraordinarily heavy. Our losses were not excessive.

The number of prisoners increased by more than 7,000 to more than 10,000.

The amount of war material captured cannot yet be estimated.

SATURDAY.

The following official despatch was issued at the German Great Headquarters in Berlin to-day:—

It has been subsequently reported that on the night of February 25th an advance carried out by an English detachment to the east of Armentières was repulsed.

In Champagne the French attacked to the south of Sainte Marie-Py the positions which we captured on February 12th. They succeeded in penetrating into the first line of trenches over a width of about 250 metres.

To the east of the Meuse considerable advances were made on the battle front, in the presence of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

Our brave troops gained possession of the hills to the south-west of the village of Louvemont, as well as the group of fortified positions situated to the east thereof.

In a fierce rush forward the Brandenburg Regiments pushed on as far as the village, and the armoured fort of Douaumont, which they carried by storm.

In the plain of the Woevre the enemy's resistance broke down along the entire front as far as the neighbourhood of Marphoville, to the south of the natural high road from Paris to Metz.

Our troops are closely pursuing the retreating enemy.

The capture of the village of Champ Neuville, reported yesterday, is based on an erroneous report.

GERMANS CLAIM TURRET FORTRESS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

An official *communiqué* issued in Berlin to-day says:—

The "Turret" Fortress of Douaumont, the north-eastern corner pillar of the permanent main fortifications of the Verdun line, was taken by storm yesterday by the 24th Brandenburg Infantry Regiment, and is now firmly in our hands.

FRANCE QUIETLY CONFIDENT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

Despite the grave events at Verdun and pessimistic rumours spread abroad from anonymous sources, Paris was never more optimistic than to-day, and nothing can be seen to signify the slightest doubt in a favourable result of the present operations. It is a significant sign that the Bourse has shown a gradual rise since the beginning of the battle.

Military circles are quietly confident, and are even grimly glad that the long-threatened attack has come.

They say that the French are perfectly ready to meet with guns and ammunition any move of the enemy. The slight advance of the Germans in different places is considered as purely strategic, and, in fact, advantageous to the French, since both sides are playing for a stronger position.

The *Temps* military critic is most encouraging, especially in what he leaves out. He says—After a night of comparative calm, the German attack against the French lines north of Verdun began again with unparalleled violence. We have evacuated on our left wing a height extending from the south of Champ Neuville to Beaumont, on which it would have been dangerous to stay too long. The Meuse would have hampered the falling back of our soldiers, who would besides have been uneasy to feel that the river was a short distance behind them.

All our first line has retired to the heights between the hillside of Rovre and the wood of Vaucho, and the Germans are now throwing themselves to the assault on this new position.

The battle is still going on. It should be remembered that it is not as that the Germans are making out a battle which they are delivering against one of the French armies. The garrison of Verdun and its forts only figure in these combats as an element of resistance. The enemy's big guns might demolish Fort Douamont without destroying anything but an inert block of concrete. The attacks have not been slackened by snow, because they could not be discontinued. Operations of such magnitude must necessarily be carried to an end. The troops engaged will not be able to remain long inactive on the ground just taken, while waiting better weather. The thaw would render the situation worse, and it must already be bad enough.

It is said that Verdun is practically the only point the enemy could choose for his last attack, because, in case of a check, he would have the line Metz-Thienville to fall back upon, whereas everywhere else he would have found no point of support. For this hypothesis to be sound it would be necessary for the German right command to be beginning to doubt the strength of their arms. The violence which they are exacting from their soldiers shows that they have no such idea. It is a victory which they wish to obtain, and they have certainly never reckoned on defeat. But this local success, even if the Germans obtain it, will be for them without effect. What can they do, with their troops exhausted by the struggle, which has now lasted some days? Let us keep, then, a full and unshaken confidence in the final issue.

UNPRECEDENTED MASSING OF MEN.

FRENCH CONFIDENCE UNSHAKEN.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

All the newspapers this morning are unanimously of opinion that we are holding our ground without flinching in the face of furious German attacks. The French are following with interest, but without the slightest anxiety, the course of a battle which is without any precedent for the massing of an enormous quantity of men and material in a confined area. They know that behind the position to which we have withdrawn of our own free will in order to avoid useless losses, and to leave the field clear for our artillery, there are reserves of men fully equal in numbers to the effectives massed together by the enemy, who are only waiting for the hour to intervene and make him pay dearly for his attack.

The *Petit Journal* says—It is hard as yet to form any exact or detailed opinion of the German operations. All one can say is that they have not been able to bring off a decisive blow. They have staked all their hopes on the present offensive. Their disillusionment has already begun.

The *Gaulois* remarks—The vigour of our resistance is not yielding an inch to the violent offensive. All the attacks made yesterday broke against the inflexible valour of our admirable soldiers. Those acquainted with the value of the defensive organisation of Verdun will look on this as a good omen. They know full well with what minute care preparations have been made, which will shortly enable us to bring the enemy's effort to a standstill. In this connection the moderate tone of the German *communiqués*, which usually exaggerate the importance of the smallest success, is significant.

FRENCH LINES UNBROKEN.

ENORMOUS GERMAN LOSSES.

(TIMES TELEGRAM, PER PRESS ASSOCIATION.)
PARIS, FRIDAY.

Yesterday the Germans pushed their advance in the Verdun offensive as far as Samogneux, and in the centre, where the French, in spite of the gallant and very successful counter-attack of one of their most famous corps, only held the southern point of the Bois des Caures, Beaumont, and Ornes. The French again deemed it prudent to withdraw to the south of Ornes, which, with Beaumont, has been evacuated. Broadly speaking, what has happened so far has been that the French centre has given way under the tremendous pressure, while the two staple points upon which it depended held firm. But they, in turn, have been evacuated, so as to constitute practically a straight front running south of Beaumont on the heights to the east of Champeneuville to the south of Ornes. Here, owing to the large loop of the river, the front is considerably restricted, and the Meuse heights only measure six miles across. This line of resistance constitutes a naturally strong position on hills about one thousand feet high, supported in the rear by about two and a half miles of solid field works based upon Douaumont Fort, and there must still be very hard fighting before the Germans can hope to reach the main defences of Verdun. During the night there was a noticeable slackening of the enemy artillery fire, and the infantry made no attempt to come to close quarters. It would be premature to declare that the offensive has come to an end, but for the moment the complete confidence of the country in the science and heroism of its defenders has been justified. Right along the front the enemy losses have been gigantic. Regiments and divisions have melted away before the machine guns and 75's. Nowhere has the line been pierced. The French stock of shells is practically in-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.)

BALKAN WAR THEATRE.

EVACUATION OF ALBANIA.

FORCES EMBARKED.

It is semi-officially announced in Rome that the withdrawal of the Serbian, Montenegrin, and Albanian troops from Albania has been completed without loss in the process of embarkation.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ROME, SATURDAY.

A semi-official statement announces that the withdrawal of the Serbian, Montenegrin, and Albanian troops from Albania has been completed. The Italian Brigade at Durazzo has also embarked, the Albanian Government having left the place.

Men, live stock, and material were assembled and transported without the least loss, despite the great difficulties of the operation, which was only rendered possible by the close co-operation of the Allied navies and the detachments of troops distributed along the Albanian coast.

The Italian Brigade at Durazzo, while retiring according to a pre-arranged plan, was attacked by very large enemy forces.

The embarkation operations, although seriously hindered by the rough weather, were accomplished under the protection of warships and torpedo boat destroyers.

In the severe fighting, bravely borne by the Italian forces, the losses inflicted on the enemy were much in excess of those suffered by us.

ESSAD PASHA IN ROME.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ROME, SATURDAY.

The *Messaggero* announces that Essad Pasha arrived in Rome this morning. He was received at the railway station by Baron Alliotti, Italian Minister to Albania.

BETTER RELATIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
SALONIKA, WEDNESDAY (DELAYED).

General Sarrail returned here from Athens to-day. Questioned as to the objects and results of his visit, he said that it was purely a courtesy visit, and had no political object. He was, however, very pleased with his reception by King Constantine, who was most cordial, and discussed the general situation, past, present, and future, but without entering into any question of diplomacy. The interview, he said, will help to clear up various misunderstandings and make for better relations in the future. General Sarrail also discussed with the Premier questions of an economic and administrative order, including that of the food supply of Salonika and Eastern Macedonia. This resulted in the appointment of a special commission, to be presided over by the Prefect of Salonika, and including the British and French Consuls, to deal with all matters connected with the food supply.

TURKISH DESPATCH.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

The *communiqué* issued in Constantinople to-day says:—

There is nothing to report on any of the theatres of war.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

PANIC AT AIVALI.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The correspondent of the *Echo de Paris* at Salonika writes:—A month ago the Turkish Government warned the Greeks at Aivali that if deserters did not return to serve in the Turkish Army the families would be deported to the interior. Afterwards a new order from the Government in Constantinople to the military and civil authorities of Aivali directed that the whole of the Greek population, numbering 25,000, was to be sent away. As soon as the news was known the Greeks were seized with mad panic, and great numbers of families fled during the night to sailing ships and boats, by which they crossed to the Island of Mytilene. The Greek Government, informed of this by the authorities of the island, at once telegraphed to its Minister in Constantinople instructing him to protest energetically against the decision of the Turkish Government.

According to a statement made by the Prefect of Salonika to a Salonika newspaper, the Jews of New Greece have now the same status as other Greek citizens, and all, therefore, have to serve in the Army. Orders have been given to the passport department to prevent Jews, between the ages of twenty and thirty-three, from leaving the country. On the other hand, the Turks have been given until the end of October to arrange their affairs, and it is supposed that Greece does not wish to enrol Turks, because she foresees the eventuality of war with Turkey. Otherwise it is difficult to explain the difference in the treatment of Jews and Turks, though the Treaty of Athens makes no distinction between them.

KING CONSTANTINE'S DECLARATION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The King of Greece, in an interview with the Athens correspondent of the *Temps*, said that he had great admiration for the French Army and for its commanders. "I have seen," he said, "two of your Generals—General Pau and General de Castelnau. I entertain the friendliest feelings for them, and I recognise their valour. I have also received Lord Kitchener, whom I did not know, but after ten minutes I looked upon him as a friend. I have no other principle in the discharge of my duties as a King than the protection of our interests. Greece considers that nothing has happened up to now which can modify our present attitude. I have never ceased to regard the Bulgarians as the hereditary enemies of my country."

DEATH OF ADMIRAL VON POHL.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

The *Cologne Gazette* announces the death, at Wilhelmshaven, of Rear-Admiral Zimmermann, and the death, at Brig, of Lieutenant-General Hans von Prittwitz und Gaffron. Vice-Admiral Scheer has issued, in the name of the German High Sea Fleet, a notice announcing the Fleet's deep regret at the death of Admiral von Pohl. According to the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, the Kaiser has sent a message of sympathy to Admiral von Pohl's widow, praising the eminent services of the deceased Admiral.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says:—Admiral von Pohl died of a serious internal complaint, which, some time ago, obliged him to relinquish command of the High Sea Fleet, and to go into hospital. The command of the High Sea Fleet was entrusted to him at the beginning of February, 1915.

CARDINAL MERCIER'S JOURNEY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
MILAN, SATURDAY.

Cardinal Mercier arrived here shortly after noon to-day. His Eminence was received by the Belgian Consul and the *personnel* of the Consulate, and was enthusiastically cheered by a large crowd. The daughter of the Belgian Consul presented him with a bouquet of carnations, bound with the Belgian colours. Cardinal Ferrare, Archbishop of Milan, was at the station to meet Cardinal Mercier, and the two Cardinals greeted each other with the greatest cordiality. Cardinal Mercier subsequently left for Chiasso. His Eminence was given a most cordial farewell, the crowd waving handkerchiefs and crying: "Vive la Belgique," to which Cardinal Mercier replied: "Viva l'Italia; vivent les Alliés."

CAUCASUS.

THE CAPTURES AT ERZERUM.

PURSUIT OF TURKS CONTINUED.

The Russians report that at Erzerum they captured 235 officers and 12,753 men, nine flags, and 323 guns.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

The Russian *communiqué* issued to-day says:

The result of the operations at Erzerum was obtained with relatively insignificant losses considering the great success achieved. We made prisoners 235 Turkish officers and 12,753 men.

We captured nine flags, 323 guns; besides taking in Erzerum a Turkish fortress of the first class, large depôts of arms, munitions, supplies, and signalling, telegraph and telephone stores, parks, etc.

We continue the pursuit of the remainder of the defeated and demoralised Turkish Army without respite.

Fifty miles west of Erzerum, on the road to Trebizond, we threw back the enemy rear guards, and occupied the village of Aschkala.

EASTERN FIELD OF WAR.

FIGHTING ON THE DNIESTER.

RUSSIAN REPORT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

To-day's official *communiqué* says:—

On the western front, in Galicia, in the region of Inikhaltche, on the Dniester, the enemy, after very prolonged bomb-throwing, succeeded in occupying a crater, but an impetuous counter-attack by our troops drove him out of it.

THE KAISER'S VICTIMS.

RUSSIANS DYING OF HUNGER AT KOVNO.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

According to information received from a trustworthy source, the situation of the inhabitants of the Governments of Suvalki, Kovno, and Grodno is lamentable. People are literally dying of hunger, and the Germans remain absolutely indifferent, and even continue to requisition everything that they can. Half the fields are being left uncultivated.

TSAR AND BRITISH FIELD-MARSHAL.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

General Sir Arthur Paget and Lord Pembroke arrived here last night. They have come to Petrograd to present a British Field Marshal's baton to the Tsar.

GENERAL KUROPATKIN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

An Imperial ukase has been issued to-day appointing General Kuropatkin, Aide-de-Camp-General to the Emperor, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian armies on the Northern Front.

FIGHTING IN PERSIA.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE KERMANSHAH.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, FRIDAY.

It is announced that the Russians have taken Kermanshah by storm.

AFTER SHIRAZ.

ANXIETY ABOUT MR. CHRISTMAS

Reuter's Agency is informed that nothing is known of the fate of Mr. Christmas, an inspector of the Indo-European Telegraph Department, employed in repairing the telegraph line between Shiraz and Ispahan at the time when his compatriots, who are held in captivity at Ahram, were seized at Shiraz. It is feared that he has suffered the same fate as Mr. MacKerrick, of the same department, who was shot by the gendarmes officer Angman with his own hand.

Mrs. J. C. Smith, wife of a colleague of Mr. Christmas, has died as the result of hardships experienced while being removed by Herr Wassmuss with the rest of the British colony at Shiraz from that place to Bushire.

GERMANY AND MR. ASQUITH'S PLEDGE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says — Mr. Asquith's speech is more remarkable for its form than for its contents. From the silence in the Commons during the speeches by Mr. Snowden and Mr. Trevelyan they hardly contained anything in conflict with the dignity of the British nation, as otherwise the House would have protested. Therefore it is all the more remarkable that the Prime Minister of Great Britain replied with insults to the German Chancellor. As regards the main point of the speech, it consisted in a brusque refusal to accept any suggestions to make public Great Britain's peace conditions. "What the Minister said on November 9, 1914, in the Guildhall, and what he repeated on November 9 of last year, he said again. But the perpetual repetition of one word, which is meant to give an appearance of strength does not at all represent strength. Continually repeated words become a phrase, and create an impression as if their author is in a *cul de sac*. Neither insults nor silly boasts, which are all meant to show an uncompromising spirit, will decide the war: only deeds can do it, and these speak for us. The excitement of the British Prime Minister is a sign that he recognises how parlous is his case."

BURDEN OF THE WAR.

NEW GERMAN TAXES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to a Berlin telegram, the bill for the taxation of war profits just published provides for the taxation of all increases in the fortunes of single persons between the beginning of 1914 and the end of 1916, if exceeding 3,000 marks. The rate of taxation ranges from five to 25 per cent. German companies will have to pay from 10 to 30 per cent. according to the excess profits made in this period. The taxes thus raised on excess profits will be increased by a further 10 to 50 per cent. if the average profit in the years of the war exceeds 10 per cent. of the company's capital. The taxation of foreign companies amounts to between 10 and 45 per cent. on excess profits. Besides the bill for the taxation of war profits, the German Government intends to submit to the Reichstag a number of bills dealing with fresh taxes, which are estimated to yield some 500 million marks. They include an increase in the tobacco duty, a stamp duty on receipts, an increase in the postal charges, and a stamp duty on freight bills. The telegram adds that these taxes are not intended to solve the question of covering the total taxation resulting from the war, as this task must be left till after the conclusion of hostilities.

CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Emmanuel Church, Chapel of Ease to St. Luke's, Cheltenham, was destroyed by fire on Friday night. Only the church books were saved. The damage is estimated at about £1,500.

UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

SUBMARINES AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT WILSON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

The Administration now believes that no action will be taken in Congress in opposition to President Wilson's wishes, as the ardour of the majority of Congressmen who favour the warning of Americans not to travel by armed ships has apparently cooled under the lash of the President's Note to Mr. Stone. It is authoritatively stated that reports received at the White House from the Capitol show that the Senate and the House of Representatives stand firmly behind President Wilson in his refusal to permit an abridgment of the rights of Americans by the Germans.

GENESIS OF DR. WILSON'S LETTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The President's letter was given out about midnight. It was in reply to a letter during the afternoon from Senator Stone, in which he said he found it difficult, from a sense of duty and responsibility, to consent to plunge the nation into the vortex of the world war because of the unreasonable obstinacy of any of the Powers, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, of the foolhardiness, amounting to a sort of moral treason against the public, of our people recklessly risking their lives on armed belligerent ships." Senator Stone assured the President that he wanted to support him and meant to do so to the last limit, but he wanted to talk with him and Mr. Lansing with the utmost frankness, and to have the President's counsel and advice regarding the course of events. In the meantime, he continued, I am striving to prevent anything being done by any Senator or member calculated to embarrass your negotiations, . . . you should be left free to act diplomatically as you think best to settle the questions involved.

PRESS OPINION.

The *Tribune*, the leading organ of the party opposed to the President, says that the Democratic party and the Democratic leaders in Congress are simply playing a part, which means the betrayal of their own country for political or pecuniary gain. No Republican member should mistake the duty now before him. The Democrats in Congress have sold out to the Germans. They have turned over the legislative machinery to the agents of the German Government in this country. Terrified by the fact that the executive branch of our Government has begun to perceive that what German statesmanship asks is not concession, but unconditional compliance, German agents have gone to the Capitol, and are using the cowardice, selfishness, and greed of Democratic politicians to dominate the policy of the nation and to coerce the Executive. The question of war or peace abroad is of comparative insignificance. The real issue is domestic, and the real peril is at home. The party which at the moment controls the majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives, for the sake of the political profit it expects to bring home, has deliberately betrayed American interests, and is seeking to surrender American rights to Germany.

THE ATTACK ON A TANK STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

A Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* states, regarding Austria Hungary's reply to the United States request for an explanation of the attack by an Austrian submarine on the American tank steamer Petrolite, that the explanation given is unsatisfactory, and that a strong protest will probably follow from the United States Government. The correspondent understands that the Austrian explanation is to the effect that the submarine commander fired on the Petrolite because he believed she was about to attack, and that he thought the vessel's flying the American flag was merely a trick. The Austrian Note is stated to add that the captain of the Petrolite furnished the submarine with supplies gratuitously and of his own free will. This account does not correspond in any particular with the American reports of the incident.

BERLIN'S VERSION OF THE NAVAL VIEW.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* says:—The *Berliner Tageblatt* publishes a telegram from Lugano, stating that, according to American cables received there, the American Navy is urging President Wilson to accept the German standpoint regarding the submarine warfare, as in the probable, though not certain, war between Japan and the United States this would be the latter's best weapon.

STEADY FALL OF THE MARK.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)
COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.70 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 20th, and 89.00 normally.

STOCKHOLM, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.75 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 21st, and 89.00 normally.

BERNE, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 94.70, against 94.90 on Tuesday, and 123.45 francs normally. That on London per £ sterling was 25.13 francs, against [illegible] francs on Tuesday, and 25.30 francs normally.

CHINESE THRONE.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S ACCESSION POSTPONED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PEKIN, THURSDAY (DELAYED).

A mandate has been issued officially postponing the accession of Yuan Shih-Kai to the Throne, owing to the revolt in the Yunnan.

Reports from Szechuan, received from Kweichow, show little change in the situation since the Yunnanese were driven back towards Suifu. There has been some fighting south of Luchow, in which the Government troops were successful, but the engagements have only been of small importance so far. The Government claims to have defeated the rebels south of Chikiang, fifty miles south of Chunking. The rebels have made raids across the Hunan-Kweichow border, but up to now have not come into contact with the Government forces in this area, while combined Kwangtung and Kwanghi troops, which are stationed at Poseh, are unable to advance at present owing to lack of transports to bring up supplies. West of the Yangtse River no serious fighting is expected till the bulk of the northern forces reach the southern Szechuan-Hunan-Kweichow border. Government circles still express confidence in the speedy suppression of the revolt.

INCREASED PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Press Bureau announces that the following notice has been received from the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply that, as from Monday next, the prices of sugar put upon the market by the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply will be advanced by 2s. per cwt. Retailers are reminded that, by agreement between the Royal Commission and representative bodies, dealers may make on their transactions, profit limited to the discount allowed them on their purchases.

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

POLITICAL RUMOUR.

There is a rumour, says *Reynolds's Newspaper*, that, owing to the taking over of the work of the blockade by Lord Robert Cecil, an additional Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs will shortly be appointed. The name of Mr. Neil Primrose, who retired from the Foreign Office on the formation of the Coalition Government, is freely mentioned in this connection. Mr. Primrose, who was some time in the Dardanelles, is now with his regiment in Egypt.

ITALY'S POET PATRIOT.

INJURED IN AEROPLANE ACCIDENT.

In a message despatched from Paris on Saturday, the special correspondent of *Lloyd's News* says:—A Rome telegram to the *Petit Parisien* says that Signor Gabrielle d'Annunzio, now a Lieutenant in the Italian Army, has been taken to hospital in Venice, having been injured in the right eye in an aeroplane accident. The physicians hope to save the sight of the eye. Gabrielle d'Annunzio, Italy's poet patriot, inspired by the Mazzini and Garibaldi spirit of devotion to the cause of his fellow-countrymen, has exercised a marvellous influence on the nation. His love of England and hatred of Austria are the typical love and hate of his race, magnified by the fervour of genius. More than any other man in Italy, d'Annunzio is responsible for the part his country is taking in the present conflict, and he was the first to give to the world the news that the Triple Alliance had been broken.

GERMANY'S DESPERATE OFFENSIVE.

The Military Correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch*, explaining the meaning of Germany's desperate offensive, says:—It has to be said that it again demonstrates the quick realisation by the Germans of the tangible facts of the military situation. The Germans see that the waiting policy serves no German purpose; rather does it play into the hands of the Allies, who are rapidly coordinating their military plans. On the other hand, they know that if an offensive has sufficient weight behind it, and men and material are a matter of indifference, the most strongly defended line must give way. The offensive can always make headway if it is prepared to pay the cost, as we showed the Germans in a rather muddled way at Neuve Chapelle; in a less muddled, but still not brilliant, fashion, at Loos, and in a more scientific form in the Champagne, and as they themselves, best of all, have shown Europe in the wonderfully conceived and wonderfully carried-out Galician drive. The Germans means to win this war. It is now or never for them. They have ceased to believe in the prospect of detaching any of the Allies by means of a separate peace, and are returning to their original design, which was to capture Paris. They have failed to reach Paris by an attack bearing due south; they are trying now to reach Paris by an attack directed from the east.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS TO BE SUSPENDED.

Writing from the cross benches of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Lucy says in the *Observer*:—Suspicions that the Prime Minister has decided to intermit for the duration of the war the payment of members will probably be confirmed before the session is many days older. Economy, like charity, should begin at home. The spectacle of the House of Commons preaching—even compelling—denial in others, whilst continuing to receive full payment of salaries conceded just before the outbreak of a war involving fabulous costs, is not conducive either to respect for itself or to furtherance of the national object it advocates. Payment of members is a breach of a time-honoured distinction, for centuries exclusively possessed by the mother of Parliaments. It was introduced little more than four years ago, at a time when the national revenue was advancing by leaps and bounds, and nobody but the Kaiser and his General Staff thought of war. The grant certainly would not have been made under present conditions, and it is these that have to be dealt with.

NOW OR NEVER.

Whatever happens at Verdun, let no one think that the Allies in the West are thrown on the defensive or doubt their power and intention to retaliate with a vengeance, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin, in the *Observer*. They keep their own plans; they bide their own hour. We shall not have very long to wait, and the conflict which the enemy seeks to precipitate before the ground is dry for the Russians will dwarf all that has been known in the West. March is almost upon us, with March the spring, in spite of the snow, with spring the months when the whole [illegible] of the war must be determined. [illegible] there is more hope than peril in the enemy's great attempt to breach the eastern rampart of France. The enemy has every reason to seek a solution, at any cost, to mark his real plans, or at least to anticipate the Allies' designs, and force the decisive campaign [illegible] land alike, it is now or never with Germany. There is an end of the waiting of armies, of the sleep of nature, and [illegible] is as quiet, with energy [illegible] with sap.

EXECUTION OF A GERMAN SPY.

OWNED HE DESERVED THE DEATH PENALTY.

There was a grim scene at the execution of a spy on the Vincennes military ground, says the Paris correspondent of *Lloyd's News* in a message dated Saturday. The man was sentenced to death by the Paris courtmartial at the beginning of January. He was a tall, handsome young fellow of twenty-five, whose identity is not quite definite. He is supposed to be Italian by birth, and pretended to have been naturalised, successively, in Argentina and Switzerland. Serious were the charges against him, as the details concerning the affair were kept secret, and the case was heard *in camera* by the courtmartial, and the Kaiser's spy agent was sentenced to death. He appealed twice against the sentence, but his appeals were rejected. The President of the Republic refused to reprieve the young spy. Before proceeding to the execution, the prisoner said: "I recognise my guilt, and I really deserve the punishment I am going to have." On the way to the military ground the prisoner, who was guarded by gendarmes, told them:—"If I was to be let free I can assure you I would not do again what I have done. I was a fool." The prisoner, deadly pale, refused to have his hands tied and his eyes covered with a handkerchief as is generally done. With remarkable care he took off his large, soft hat and threw it on the ground, and turned towards the twelve soldiers who were going to shoot him. An officer read out the sentence, trumpets sounded, and the non-commissioned officer in command of the company commanded "Fire" with his sword. A sharp volley rang out, and the spy fell dead with several bullets through his heart. The troops marched past the dead body, which was afterwards taken to the Vincennes Cemetery.

A GOOD STORY.

A good story, illustrative of the muddle which the Government arrangements have now left the question of aircraft defence, is being related by Mr. Arthur Lynch, M.P., says one of the special political correspondents of the *Weekly Dispatch*. It concerns a sentry on the East coast, who was asked if he understood his duties in the event of the approach of hostile aircraft. "Certainly," he replied. "It is like this: If I see a German military aeroplane coming I have to call on the Army to deal with it. If it is a naval aeroplane I call on the Navy. If it is a Zeppelin, I'm done."

JACK JOHNSON OFF TO BUENOS AYRES.

Jack Johnson, the negro boxer, has been directed to leave England. When asked on Saturday night by the Northampton correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch* why he was

UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

SUBMARINES AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT WILSON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

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The President's letter was given out about midnight. It was in reply to a letter during the afternoon from Senator Stone, in which he said he found it difficult, from a sense of duty and responsibility, to consent to plunge the nation into the vortex of world war because of the unreasonable obstinacy of any of the Powers, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, of the foolhardiness, amounting to a sort of moral treason against the public, "of our people recklessly risking their lives on armed belligerent ships." Senator Stone assured the President that he wanted to support him and meant to do so to the last limit, but he wanted to talk with him and Mr. Lansing with the utmost frankness, and to have the President's counsel and advice regarding the course of events. In the meantime, he continued, I am striving to prevent anything being done by any Senator or member calculated to embarrass your negotiations. You should be left free to act diplomatically as you think best to settle the questions involved.

PRESS OPINION.

The *Tribune*, the leading organ of the party opposed to the President, says that the Democratic party and the Democratic leaders in Congress are simply playing a part, which means the betrayal of their own country for political or pecuniary gain. No Republican member should mistake the duty now before him. The Democrats in Congress have sold out to the Germans. They have turned over the legislative machinery to the agents of the German Government in this country. Terrified by the fact that the executive branch of our Government has begun to perceive that what German statesmanship asks is not concession, but unconditional compliance, German agents have gone to the Capitol, and are using the cowardice, selfishness, and greed of Democratic politicians to dominate the policy of the nation and to coerce the Executive. The question of war or peace abroad is of comparative insignificance. The real issue is domestic, and the real peril is at home. The party which at the moment controls the majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives, for the sake of the political profit it expects to bring home, has deliberately betrayed American interests, and is seeking to surrender American rights to Germany.

THE ATTACK ON A TANK STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

A Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* states, regarding Austria-Hungary's reply to the United States request for an explanation of the attack by an Austrian submarine on the American tank steamer Petrolite, that the explanation given is unsatisfactory, and that a strong protest will probably follow from the United States Government. The correspondent understands that the Austrian explanation is to the effect that the submarine commander fired on the Petrolite because he believed she was about to attack, and that he thought the vessel's flying the American flag was merely a trick. The Austrian Note is stated to add that the captain of the Petrolite furnished the submarine with supplies gratuitously and of his own free will. This account does not correspond in any particular with the American reports of the incident.

BERLIN'S VERSION OF THE NAVAL VIEW.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* says:—The *Berliner Tageblatt* publishes a telegram from Lugano, stating that, according to American cables received there, the American Navy is urging President Wilson to accept the German standpoint regarding the submarine warfare, as in the probable, though not certain, war between Japan and the United States this would be the latter's best weapon.

STEADY FALL OF THE MARK.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)
COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.70 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 20th, and 0.00 normally.

STOCKHOLM, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.75 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 21st, and 0.00 normally.

BERNE, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 94.70, against 0.00 on Tuesday, and 123.45 francs normally. That on London per £ sterling was 25.13 francs, against 25 francs on Tuesday, and 0 francs normally.

CHINESE THRONE.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S ACCESSION POSTPONED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PEKING, THURSDAY (DELAYED).

A mandate has been issued officially postponing the accession of Yuan Shih-Kai to the Throne, owing to [illegible] the Yunnanese.

Reports from [illegible] received via Kweichow, show little change in the situation since the Yunnanese were driven back towards Suifu. There has been some fighting south of Luchow, in which the Government troops were successful, but the engagements have only been of small importance up to now. The Government claims to have defeated the rebels south of [illegible], fifty miles south of Chunking. The rebels have made raids across the Hunan-Kweichow border, but up to now have not come into contact with the Government forces in this area, while combined Kwangtung and Kwangsi troops, which are stationed at Pouch, are unable to advance at present owing to lack of transports to bring up supplies. West of the Yangtse River no serious fighting is expected till the bulk of the northern forces reach the southern Szechuan-Hunan-Kweichow border. Government circles still express confidence in the speedy suppression of the revolt.

INCREASED PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Press Bureau announces that the following notice has been received from the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply that, as from Monday next, the prices of sugar put upon the market by the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply will be advanced by 2s. per cwt. Retailers are reminded that, by agreement between the Royal Commission and representative bodies, dealers may make, on their transactions, profit limited to the discount allowed them on their purchases.

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

POLITICAL RUMOUR.

There is a rumour, says *Reynolds's Newspaper*, that, owing to the taking over of the work of the blockade by Lord Robert Cecil, an additional Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs will shortly be appointed. The name of Mr. Neil Primrose, who retired from the Foreign Office on the formation of the Coalition Government, is freely mentioned in this connection. Mr. Primrose, who was some time in the Dardanelles, is now with his regiment in Egypt.

ITALY'S POET PATRIOT.

INJURED IN AEROPLANE ACCIDENT.

In a message despatched from Paris on Saturday, the special correspondent of *Lloyd's News* says:—A Rome telegram to the *Petit Parisien* says that Signor Gabrielle d'Annunzio, now a Lieutenant in the Italian Army, has been taken to hospital in Venice, having been injured in the right eye in an aeroplane accident. The physicians hope to save the sight of the eye. Gabrielle d'Annunzio, Italy's poet patriot, inspired by the Mazzini and Garibaldi spirit of devotion to the cause of his fellow-countrymen, has exercised a marvellous influence on the nation. His love of England and hatred of Austria are the typical love and hate of his race, magnified by the fervour of genius. More than any other man in Italy, d'Annunzio is responsible for the part his country is taking in the present conflict, and he was the first to give to the world the news that the Triple Alliance had been broken.

GERMANY'S DESPERATE OFFENSIVE.

The Military Correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch*, explaining the meaning of Germany's desperate offensive, says:—It has to be said that it again demonstrates the quick realisation by the Germans of the tangible facts of the military situation. The Germans see that the waiting policy serves no German purpose; rather does it play into the hands of the Allies, who are rapidly co-ordinating their military plans. On the other hand, they know that if an offensive has sufficient weight behind it, and men and material are a matter of indifference, the most strongly defended line must give way. The offensive can always make headway if it is prepared to pay the cost, as we showed the Germans in a rather muddled way at Neuve Chapelle; in a less muddled, but still not brilliant, fashion, at Loos, and in a more scientific form in the Champagne, and as they themselves, best of all, have shown Europe in the wonderfully conceived and wonderfully carried-out Galician drive. The Germans means to win this war. It is now or never for them. They have ceased to believe in the prospect of detaching any of the Allies by means of a separate peace, and are returning to their original design, which was to capture Paris. They have failed to reach Paris by an attack bearing due south; they are trying now to reach Paris by an attack directed from the east.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS TO BE SUSPENDED.

Writing from the cross benches of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Lucy says in the *Observer*:—Suspicions that the Prime Minister has decided to intermit for the duration of the war the payment of members will probably be confirmed before the session is many days older. Economy, like charity, should begin at home. The spectacle of the House of Commons preaching—even compelling—denial in others, whilst continuing to receive full payment of salaries conceded just before the outbreak of a war involving fabulous costs, is not conducive either to respect for itself or to furtherance of the national object it advocates. Payment of members is a breach of a time-honoured distinction, for centuries exclusively possessed by the mother of Parliaments. It was introduced little more than four years ago, at a time when the national revenue was advancing by leaps and bounds, and nobody but the Kaiser and his General Staff thought of war. The grant certainly would not have been made under present conditions, and it is these that have to be dealt with.

NOW OR NEVER.

Whatever happens at Verdun, let no one think that the Allies in the West are thrown on the defensive, or doubt their power and intention to retaliate with a vengeance, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin, in the *Observer*. They keep their own plans; they bide their own hour. We shall not have very long to wait, and the conflict which the enemy seeks to precipitate before the ground is dry for the Russians will dwarf all that has been known in the West. March is almost upon us; with March the spring, in spite of the snow, with spring, the months when the whole sequel of this war must be determined. If we read aright, there is more hope than peril in the enemy's great attempt to breach the eastern rampart of France. The enemy has every reason to seek a solution, at any cost, to mask his real plans, or at least to anticipate the Allies offensive, and force the decisive campaign. By sea and land alike, it is now or never with Germany. There is an end of the waiting of armies, as of the sleep of nature, and the war on all sides is as quiet with energy as the earth with sap.

EXECUTION OF A GERMAN SPY.

OWNED HE DESERVED THE DEATH PENALTY.

There was a grim scene at the execution of a spy on the Vincennes military ground, says the Paris correspondent of *Lloyd's News*, in a message dated Saturday. The man was sentenced to death by the Paris courtmartial at the beginning of January. He was a tall, handsome young fellow of twenty-five, whose identity is not quite definite. He is supposed to be Italian by birth, and pretended to have been naturalised, successively, in Argentina and Switzerland. Serious were the charges against him, as the details concerning the affair were kept secret, and the case was heard *in camera* by the courtmartial, and the Kaiser's spy agent was sentenced to death. He appealed twice against the sentence, but his appeals were rejected. The President of the Republic refused to reprieve the young spy. Before proceeding to the execution, the prisoner said: "I recognise my guilt, and I really deserve the punishment I am going to have." On the way to the military ground the prisoner, who was guarded by gendarmes, told them:—"If I was to be let free I can assure you I would not do again what I have done. I was a fool." The prisoner, deadly pale, refused to have his hands tied and his eyes covered with a handkerchief, as is generally done. With remarkable care, he took off his large, soft hat and threw it on the ground, and turned towards the twelve soldiers who were going to shoot him. An officer read out the sentence, trumpets sounded, and the non-commissioned officer in command of the company commanded "Fire" with his sword. A sharp volley rang out, and the spy fell dead with several bullets through his heart. The troops marched past the dead body, which was afterwards taken to the Vincennes Cemetery.

A GOOD STORY.

A good story, illustrative of the muddle in which the Government arrangements have now left the question of aircraft defence, is being related by Mr. Arthur Lynch, M.P., says one of the special political correspondents of the *Weekly Dispatch*. It concerns a sentry on the East coast, who was asked if he understood his duties in the event of the approach of hostile aircraft. "Certainly," he replied; "it is like this: If I see a German military aeroplane coming I have to call on the Army to deal with it. If it is a naval aeroplane I call on the Navy. If it is a Zeppelin, I'm done."

JACK JOHNSON OFF TO BUENOS AYRES.

Jack Johnson, the negro boxer, has been directed to leave England. When asked on Saturday night by the Northampton correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch* why he was taking his departure, he fired back straight from the shoulder, as it were, "To fight." "Whom!" queried the correspondent. "Oh, I don't quite know," he responded. "I think Sam Langford or McVea. It must be one of those two. You see, Kleigin, who arranged my fight with Willard, has offered me, on behalf of a syndicate, £10,000 as my end of the purse, including the picture rights, for a fight in South America, and I have accepted. I had to come away from London to-day in a hurry, so I do not know my opponent. I shall know to-morrow, and I meet Kleigin to settle the details." Jack Johnson's ultimate destination is Buenos Ayres.

LATEST NEWS.

ENTENTE POWERS AND AMERICAN NOTE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

Mr. Lansing announces that one of the Entente Powers has answered his suggestion regarding disarmament of merchant ships, but does not state which Power, nor the nature of the reply.

The Associated Press says it learns that Italy has sent a reply to Mr. Lansing's suggestion, in which she merely points out that Italian liners, when clearing from American ports, give pledges not to use their armament except for defence.

THE GERMAN RIOTS.

Telegraphing from Paris on Saturday, the *Daily Chronicle* correspondent in Paris says—According to a message from Amsterdam, fresh riots took place in Berlin recently. Mounted police charged and many people were injured.

According to the *Vorwaerts*, violent demonstrations have been taking place at Halle when there were no potatoes for sale last week. Stormy scenes took place at the last sitting of the Prussian Land Tag, according to the *Lokalanzeiger*. Answering Socialist attacks, Herr Osten, a Conservative member, read a circular which is being secretly distributed in Germany. It says:—

"While on a single word from the military authorities fathers are being sent to slaughter, these very same authorities are incapable of making the landowners take their pigs to the slaughterhouse. Is it, then, that the husbands and sons of our German women are not of the same value as pigs?"

These words caused commotion, while Herr Liebknecht shouted, "Quite so."

TURKISH REIGN OF TERROR.

A *Weekly Dispatch* cable from Athens says: It is reported that Ahmed Riza, President of the Chamber, and Prince Izzed Din, with numerous others, have been arrested at Constantinople for the supposed part taken by them in the recent disturbances that followed on the fall of Erzerum.

KING OF SPAIN'S HEALTH.

Reynolds's Newspaper says:—Once again the health of the King of Spain is causing some anxiety. Although to outward appearances perfectly well, he is a great sufferer from his throat, and is about to undergo several days' treatment at the hands of the famous Dr. Moore, who resides at St. Sebastian.

NEW GERMAN POISON GAS FACTORY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to the *Echo Belge*, the Germans have collected a considerable number of troops in Flanders, and artillery reinforcements have been continually arriving since December. Not less than eighteen attacks were made recently, the paper says, against a small front at Steenstraete, on the Commines Canal, south of Hill 160. Only two attacks had some success, but the German losses must have been terrible. Their killed and wounded are estimated here to number 17,000. The enemy has erected at Schoonaerde a new poison gas factory.

PHILANTHROPIST'S LARGE ESTATE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ADELAIDE, SATURDAY.

The estate of the late Mr. Robert Barr Smith, the well known philanthropist, who died on November 22nd last, is valued at £1,800,000.

DUTCH NEWSPAPERS INTERDICTED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to a telegram from Vienna, copies of the *Telegraaf*, the Dutch pro-Ally newspaper, are not allowed to enter Austria by post.

LABOUR BODIES AND THE WAGES QUESTION.

The Prime Minister has consented to receive a deputation at the House of Commons from various Labour bodies on Tuesday, to press for modification of the Government decision to limit increases of wages, except where the local wages circumstances require adjustment. The deputation will include representatives from the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, the National Executive of the Labour Party, the National Advisory Committee on War Output, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. The Labour Party announces the appointment of a sub-committee to consider labour questions affecting labour likely to arise after the war on the demobilisation of the troops. The Committee are approaching other union bodies with a view to joint action, and an early preliminary announcement regarding plans and suggestions for dealing with the matter of soldiers being transferred to munition work are required to sign an undertaking to return to military service as soon as munition employment ceases, the wages to be the district rate, or Army pay and an allowance, whichever is granted.

HIGHER WAGES FOR BRISTOL TRANSPORT WORKERS.

It was announced on Saturday that Bristol transport shore workers have received advances in wages which amount to nearly £100,000 per annum. The concession benefits about 10,000 men, who in most cases have received increases of 3s. to 4s. a week for day work and a penny an hour for night work.

LADY SPAIGHT'S WILL.

Dame Elizabeth Spaight, widow of Sir James Spaight, of Derry Castle, Tipperary, whose will has just been proved, left £13,501.

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN'S STORY.

Here is a little story that will interest Irish readers, thinks the writer of Secret History in *Reynolds's Newspaper*:—A Connemara lady, named Bridget Joyce, from the Joyce country, was sobbing out to Father Bernard Vaughan the sad news of how she had lost her husband and her son on the high seas. "Ah, Father," she said, "my heart is broken, for without them all is dark and sad and silent." Father Bernard took his dear friend by the hand and said: "Bridget, my child, God has rung up your dear ones before you, that you may have the joy of meeting them on the doorstep of our Celtic home, Heaven. They were brave to do, as you are brave to bear. So you shall meet in the home of the brave, where never again you will part." "Ah, Father, dear," she exclaimed, "it is thrue for you, and your words to me are as honey to the bees in summer. In future, please God, my troubles shall sit upon my heart as lightly as the thistledown on a briar bush."

WESTERN FIELD OF WAR.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

exhaustible, and reinforcements continue to pour into the threatened sector.

OBJECT OF THE ATTACK ON TAHURE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The *Petit Parisien* says—The attack which the Germans began on February 12th in the Tahure region was of an isolated character, and was effected by the enemy in order to mask the great offensive which they were preparing against Verdun, and in order to compel the French to concentrate their effectives at the point where they were attacking. The assault clearly had in view, the paper continues, the conquest of two salients of our line. Before one of them was the 185th German Infantry Regiment, before the other the 31st Regiment. A formidable supply of artillery had been assembled by the enemy on this narrow front, as well as numerous trench mortars, and thirty batteries of numerous calibre. These opened a violent fire, increasing in intensity, on our trenches and their accessory defences. Our gunners replied and bombarded without cessation the German trenches, whose occupants appeared to be very disturbed by the accuracy of our fire. The Germans, after using explosive shells, employed asphyxiating gasses, but the wind, evidently intending to do them ill, turned against them. Gusts of fire also dispersed the gas, and frequently threw it back on their own trenches. Greatly upset by this unexpected *contretemps*, the Germans, who had orders at all costs to divert our attention by a prolonged attack, took the offensive. About five o'clock two mines were exploded with a great noise, hurling up great masses of earth on all sides, and then jets of flaming liquid were turned in the direction of our infantry some minutes before the attack. These jets were directed by special pioneers with the aid of machines called flammenwerfer. The attack then began. The German infantry tried to leave their trenches, but without obtaining any serious success. Prisoners said that the attack had been preceded by full-dress rehearsals, but the result of the attack was at no spot in proportion to the care and efforts bestowed on it.

EFFECT IN THE UNITED STATES.

FALL IN GERMAN EXCHANGE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The great German offensive against Verdun has had the most significant counter-part in the further decline of the German exchange in New York. In face of seemingly adverse news from Paris, the French exchange rose to the highest point touched for many days, French cheques being quoted at 5.87 sterling, and the Anglo-French Bonds remained firm, while the rates for German exchange went down to 13 cents for 4 marks, only 1 cent above the lowest record. Wall street enthusiastically endorses the stand taken by the President against Congress, and expresses the utmost confidence in the ability of the French to withstand the German onslaught.

THE KAISER AT WILHELMSHAVEN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

According to the *Wilhelmshavener Zeitung*, the Kaiser visited Wilhelmshaven last Wednesday morning. After inspecting the various warships and conferring with the Chief of the North Sea Staff he left the same evening.

GERMAN OFFICER'S VIEWS.

BREACH WITH AMERICA ADVANTAGEOUS.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* publishes the views of a high German naval officer on submarine warfare, and the questions connected therewith. The officer said that the view which is shared by the majority of German naval officers is that a complete breach between Germany and America would be conducive to a far earlier victorious termination of the war, but only on condition that Germany derived all the results logically arising out of such a breach. As soon as we need have no more consideration for the United States, we can wage naval war with the same ruthlessness as the British have hitherto done, and, like the latter, set up our own sea laws. We could immediately declare all Great Britain and Ireland blockaded, and announce that every ship, of whatever flag, that tried to enter a British harbour would, on entering the war zone, be regarded as a blockade runner and be destroyed without warning, so as to eliminate the hitherto existing tricks, especially as past experience shows that every merchant vessel is armed.

In reply to the contention of statesmen that the sinking of neutral merchant ships without warning would provoke neutral indignation, the officer said—The indignation of neutrals in a matter that touches our existence can influence us as little as it influences at present the British, who, unhindered, constantly trample on the rights of neutrals. It would, moreover, be a far greater act of barbarity to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of your own country's children by an unduly protracted war. The officer thinks his policy would lead to the starvation of Great Britain, and thus to her submission, and automatically to the submission of Russia and France. America would then be isolated and would have to submit, because Germany, having obtained from her other beaten opponents the transfer to Germany of all their great battleships and submarines, would be seven times stronger on sea than America, which, when beaten, would have to surrender all the German merchantmen which she has seized and also pay all their costs of the Central Powers and their allies.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Flying Officer—Second Lieutenant Denis O. Mulholland, the Connaught Rangers, Special Reserve, and seconded.

INFANTRY.

Royal Munster Fusiliers—Second Lieutenants to be Lieutenants: T. H. Pounsdeistre, T. Price.

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Royal Irish Rifles—Second Lieutenant (on probation) J. M. Higgins resigns his commission on account of ill-health.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
INFANTRY.
SERVICE BATTALIONS.

Royal Irish Regiment—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—M. J. Dalton, F. J. G. Ellison, M. L. Roche, E. F. P. Tydd, R. U. B. White, H. Trenaman, W. I. Hannon.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—S. McConnell, R. G. Neill, R. W. Topp.

Royal Irish Rifles—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—A. M. Dunn, A. W. Hollinshead.

Royal Irish Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—R. V. Jackson, J. J. Kennedy, H. S. Lee.

Connaught Rangers—A. Ribbons to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)—N. D. Prendergast to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Munster Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. Molony, D. Hickey, R. O'Connell, H. Waring.

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—G. T. Browne, N. B. Harris, P. J. Walsh, A. J. Carrigan, J. H. E. Harris, R. L. Higgins, B. C. Poulter. Temporary Second Lieutenant R. F. Hilliard relinquishes his commission.

SECOND RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—A. R. Bush to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—Temporary Second Lieutenant G. A. Nolan to be temporary Second Lieutenant. To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. R. Brennan-Barry, W. M. Calwell, A. J. J. Clancy, H. H. Cross, J. Curry, A. W. Henchy, J. Keenan, C. M. Molony, C. P. Close.

LOCAL RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—B. St. J. Main to be temporary Quartermaster, with the honorary rank of Lieutenant.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenant:—

INFANTRY.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—Private G. H. Gibson.

GEORGE YOUNGER AND SON.

The directors of George Younger and Son have declared dividends of 10 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares and 5s. per share on the Deferred Shares. This is the same as last year.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following casualty in the Canadian Contingent with the Expeditionary Force is reported:

WOUNDED.

BOYCE, Lieut. C. D., 19th Canadian Infantry Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported from General Headquarters, under date 20th February, 1916:—

WOUNDED.

BUCHANAN, Second Lieut. A. G. W. A., Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 12th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
BUCKMASTER, Lieut. H. H., West Yorks. Regt., 10th Batt.
BURNAND, Second Lieut. G. M., Lancs. Fusiliers, 9th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
COLLINS, Second Lieut. C. H., Royal Warwicks. Regt., 13th Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.
HUGALL, Second Lieut. J. G., Durham L.I., 17th Batt., attached 2nd Batt.
NORMAN, Lieut. C. M., Rifle Brigade, 10th Batt.
PATTEN, Second Lieut. A. G. B., Suffolk Regt., attached 4th Batt. (T.F.).
PATTINSON, Second Lieut. G. H., Royal Fusiliers, 9th Batt.
STEWART, Second Lieut. E. W., Durham L.I., 14th Batt.

MISSING.

GARLICK, Second Lieut. F. A., Royal Flying Corps.
KNOX, Capt. W., Cameron Highlanders, 3rd Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported under various dates:—

WOUNDED.

CORDEN, Second Lieut. G. S., London Regt. (T.F.), 3rd Batt., Royal Fusiliers, attached 22nd Batt. The Queen's.
DAVIS, Second Lieut. W., Royal Engineers.
TRENDELL, Second Lieut. C. H., West Yorks. Regt., 11th Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MESOPOTAMIA.

The following casualty amongst non-commissioned officers of the Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 2nd BATTALION.
Lyons, 9030, Corporal J.

The following casualty in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 1st BATT.
Bane, 3022, Private J.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Expeditionary Force are reported from the Base, under date 17th February, 1916:—

KILLED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Maship, 12136, Acting Corporal O.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Magee, 19302, Private H.
ROYAL IRISH RIFLES, 12th BATT. (CENTRAL ANTRIM).
Sempey, 19751, Corporal J.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Burke, 3748, Pte. T.; Hill, 10272, Pte. E.; Hudson, 4814, Pte. E.; Judge, 4678, Pte. T.; Nolan, 56, Corpl. P.; Sexton, 4356, Pte. P.; Ward, 3607, Pte. S.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Urwin, 19375, Lance-Corporal W.
CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 6th BATT.
Heaney, 3780, Private J.

Previously reported wounded, now reported died of wounds:—

IRISH GUARDS, 1st BATT.
French, 8741, Private W.

WOUNDED.

ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Coll, 3660, Private J.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Deery, 4298, Pte. W.; McCoy, 11007, Pte. J.; McGoldrick, 6955, Pte. J.; Mercer, 8613, Pte. S.; O'Kane, 3275, Pte. C.; White, 7605, Lce.-Corpl. W.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Owens, 16311, Pte. C. R.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Cassidy, 2996, Pte. J.; Coleman, 10299, Pte. M.; Conroy, 7394, Pte. T.; Corrigan, 3719, Pte. J.; Curran, 3251, Pte. P.; Davies, 4728, Pte. B.; Davis, 6645, Pte. J.; Donovan, 4455, Pte. D.; Duffy, 4830, Pte. J.; Duffy, 3357, Pte. M.; Dugan, 10545, Pte. W.; Kirwan, 3595, Lce.-Corpl. T.; Lawless, 5009, Pte. B.; McDonnell, 4851, Pte. T.; Moore, 9131, Pte. J.; Naylor, 9998, Pte. H.; Steepe, 10204, Pte. D.; Thompson, 6270, Sgt. B.; Whelan, 1558, Pte. J.
ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 8th BATT.
Halligan, 25070, Pte. H.; Tait, 14613, Sgt. T.

WOUNDED, SHOCK-SHELL.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Gorry, 4279, Private P.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men are reported from Mesopotamia under various dates:—

DIED OF WOUNDS.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 1st BATT.
Costello, 10211, Pte. E.; Hannon, 9445, Acting Lce.-Sgt. P.; Hillary, 8790, Pte. F.; Roberts, 4718, Pte. T. W.; Ward, 5108, Pte. B.

The following casualty is reported from the Balkan Expeditionary Force:—

KILLED.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 5th BATT.
Keneavy, 3/5868, Private M.

The following casualty is reported from oversea:—

DIED.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Lally, 3/3437, Private T.

MISSING AIRMAN.

DEATH BY DROWNING.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Bernard Lee was reported missing since February 15, and his relatives have now received from the Admiralty official intimation of his death by drowning. Flight Sub-Lieutenant Lee left to carry out patrol duty. Search for him has been carried out by H.M. ships, but without result. Lieutenant Lee was the younger son of Mr. C. Richards Lee, of the Admiralty, and the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. R. Goulburn Lovell, of Eastbourne. His brother is serving in France in the Seaforth Highlanders. He would have been 21 years old next May. He had served in East Africa, where he went up a river in a boat conveying aeroplanes to be used in connection with the destruction of the German steamer Koenigsberg.

SECLUSION FOR 160,000 SLACKERS.

At a meeting of the Executive of the Scottish mine-workers in Glasgow on Saturday it was stated that since the outbreak of war 160,000 men throughout Great Britain had left other occupations for the mines because underground workers were barred from military service.

The Chairman (Mr. Robertson) said that should the war last a considerable time these newcomers would become miners, and trouble would arise when the old miners returned from military service. Military service miners felt very strongly on the subject, because they had responded loyally to the call for soldiers. It was doubtful whether military tribunals had any power to deal with men who had entered mines during the war.

It was agreed that the matter should be brought before the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and that representatives of the men should meet the Scottish mine-owners to ensure the re-employment of miners who have joined the Army, after the war terminated.

GREAT SNOWSTORM IN ENGLAND.

The heavy snowstorm of the last three days still continues in South Shropshire, and the Radnorshire train service is much disorganised. Road traffic is impeded by heavy drifts.

The snowstorm was the cause of a death at Wirksworth Midland Railway Station on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Thomas Midgley, of Duffield, an engineer, came by a Derby train to see his son, and while alighting he slipped on the icy platform, struck a barrow, and died instantly. He was sixty years of age.

SNOW AFFECTS COAL SUPPLY.

The severe snowstorm in Birmingham and district, which was renewed on Saturday, is having a serious affect on the coal supply. For some days operations at the Staffordshire and Warwickshire pits have been virtually suspended. Birmingham merchants have had no deliveries since Wednesday, and on Saturday their stocks were nearly exhausted. Householders who rushed on the market have been unable to obtain supplies, as, owing to the state of the roads, delivery has been possible within only a short radius. The output at many works has been curtailed.

HARSH WEATHER IN DUBLIN.

Winter was keenly felt on Saturday in Dublin. The early hours of the morning were cold but not damp. As the day became older, rain fell intermittently, and great cold added to the unpleasantness of the time. In the afternoon snow began to fall. It did not, however, make any headway, and what fell soon passed into the slush of the streets. The weather was not any better in the evening. It grew, perhaps, worse after dark, and those people who were about the town had disagreeable walking. At eleven o'clock snow was falling appreciably, and the ground had a white covering as theatre-goers and others were passing homeward.

BELGIAN INDUSTRIES.

EXPOSURE OF GERMAN METHODS BY SIR E. GREY.

ALLIES' POLICY DEFENDED.

A memorandum dealing with the industrial question in Belgium has been prepared, and in forwarding it to M. Hymans, the Belgian Minister in London, Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, wrote as follows (February 19, 1916):—

MY DEAR MINISTER,—During the last months you have represented to me frequently the condition of industries in the part of Belgium occupied by the enemy, and the need for imports of raw material if those industries are to be saved from ruin and universal unemployment and distress prevented. I now enclose a memorandum which shows the true state of the case.

I should add that the question here dealt with is entirely distinct from the importation of foodstuffs into Belgium by the Relief Commission, as to which the attitude of His Majesty's Government remains that stated recently in Parliament, that His Majesty's Government will facilitate the work of the Commission as long and in so far as that work is carried on under adequate neutral supervision completely independent of German control and in compliance with the conditions laid down from time to time by His Majesty's Government. (Signed) E. GREY.

Sir Edward Grey's memorandum is as follows:—

It is understood that there is a strong feeling among Belgians that the industrial distress in Belgium is to be attributed solely to the action of the Allied Governments in preventing imports, and it is often contended that this action does not appreciably harm Germany, while it involved the most painful loss to the people of our Ally. As is already known, His Majesty's Government have not been able to agree that Belgian industry can be maintained in present circumstances without very considerable benefit to the enemy, involving a postponement of the restoration of Belgian independence. But at the same time His Majesty's Government have been fully impressed with the necessity of assisting the Belgian population, and it is for this reason that they have supported the Commission for Relief in Belgium, and have permitted export trade from Belgium under certain conditions. It was also for this reason that they decided some months ago to signify their willingness to consider proposals for the importation of raw materials into Belgium through the agency, and under the guarantee, of the Relief Commission. The undertakings demanded from the Germans in connection with this scheme were simple. They were to permit the free importation of raw materials and the export of manufactured goods made from such materials, through the Relief Commission; they were to respect and free from all embargo or requisition any stocks of similar raw materials or manufactured goods still remaining in the country; and they were in general to treat any factory thus supplied by the Commission as enjoying the same privileges and immunities as one of the Commission's warehouses. It was believed that importations under such a system would suffice to reduce unemployment and to relieve the population from much at least of the distress inseparable from their unfortunate position.

POLICY OF THE GERMANS.

This scheme was submitted to the German authorities at Brussels by the Commission four months ago. Inquiries have since been made as to the progress of the negotiations, but without result. Up to the present no reply of any kind has been received from the Germans.

There was never any doubt of what the policy of the Germans really was in this matter, but it has now become clear. While they proclaim to the people of Belgium on every occasion that the ruin of Belgian industry is solely due to the policy of the Allies, while they make capital out of their readiness to give to Belgian manufacturers guarantees that they will not requisition raw materials imported for their factories abroad, they are determined to enter into no arrangement for the relief of Belgian industry until they have taken from the country the last ounce of native stocks of raw material or manufactured goods which can be of any use to them, and until they have been able to create such widespread destitution as to force the requisite amount of Belgian labour to emigrate to Germany, or to take employment in works in Belgium controlled by them for their own purposes. When these objects have been gained, so far as the patriotism and finances of the Belgian manufacturers and workmen will ever permit such objects to be gained, they will, doubtless, express their readiness to make an arrangement whereby the country, once fully drained of all its resources, may be restocked. Before that time arrived this German policy should, therefore, be fully exposed.

Only a few figures need be given in proof of facts so notorious. In one month, October 26-November 26, by one route only there were exported from Belgium to Germany 74,000 tons of coal; 6,100 tons of phosphates, 100 tons of lead, 1,350 tons of ore, 340 tons of pitprops, 1,200 tons of guano, and 1,600 tons of briquettes. In the month immediately preceding this period there were large exportations of the same articles by the same route, besides such items as 840 tons of pyrites, 1,600 casks of tanning extract, 350 tons of extract of lead, and quantities of iron, lead, rubber, and copal. It is well known that at least half the product of the Belgian textile mills has been requisitioned.

Recently the commander-in-chief of the Fourth Army in Belgium issued an order directing, under heavy penalties, that all stocks of cotton should be declared, and prohibiting the working of cottons in future. Indeed, the general policy of the Germans cannot be better illustrated than by the guarantees recently given by them to a prominent Belgian business man, undertaking to respect certain metals, such as steel and copper, essential to the maintenance of one of the chief Belgian industries, upon production of proof that these articles had been imported. The inference is obvious—that any Belgian stocks of such articles would be seized. All the most essential materials in Belgium, such as oil and metals, are controlled by German organisations in the German interest, and cannot be obtained unless the applicant conforms himself to the wishes of the enemy.

This, then, is the position:—His Majesty's Government have made an attempt to provide relief for Belgian industries by importation of raw materials from abroad, in spite of their belief that such importations, even under the safeguards proposed, would result in substantial benefit to the enemy. The German authorities must be presumed from their persistent silence to have refused their consent to the scheme put forward by the relief commission. Their fixed policy of impoverishing the country and driving the workmen into their employment now stands revealed, and His Majesty's Government must disclaim all responsibility towards the Belgian people for evils which the enemy has both caused and refused to remove.

LLOYD'S MAIL NEWS.

ADEN, Friday.—The Nellore, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
ADEN, Wednesday.—The Australian, from Calcutta, arrived.
ADEN, Friday.—The Kashmir, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
BARBADOS, Friday.—The Denis, from Manaos, arrived.
BUENOS AYRES, Friday.—The Amazon, for the United Kingdom, left.
COLOMBO, Friday.—The Sardinia, for London, left.
DEAL, Thursday.—The Catalina, from the United Kingdom for the West Indies, passed.
HONG KONG, Thursday.—The Namur, from Bombay, left.
LIVERPOOL, Friday.—The Demerara, from Buenos Ayres, arrived.
MADEIRA, Thursday.—The Arzila, for London, left.
MARSEILLES, Wednesday.—The Katori Maru, for London, left.
MELBOURNE, Friday.—The Mongolia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
PORT NATAL, Thursday.—The Suwa Maru, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
PORT SAID, Monday.—The Tenasserim, for Liverpool, left.
PORT SAID, Friday.—The Caledonia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
RIO JANEIRO, Thursday.—The Darro, from the United Kingdom for Buenos Ayres, arrived.
SUEZ CANAL, Thursday.—The Chupra arrived.
TRINIDAD, Wednesday.—The Quillota, for the West Indies and Colon, left.
VICTORIA, Wednesday.—The Awa Maru, from Hong Kong, arrived, and left for Seattle.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

Lord Burnham, presiding on Saturday afternoon at the annual meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund, said that the members of the Press could not have acquitted themselves more worthily than they had during the war. The number of Pressmen who had gone to the front or were engaged in war work compared very favourably with other professions. They had every reason to feel proud and satisfied with the part they were playing wherever their services were required. He regarded the Presidency of the Fund as the blue riband of the profession.

THE FALL OF ERZERUM

EFFECT ON THE KURDS.

A despatch from a Petrograd correspondent contains information regarding the Kurds which makes it clear that the Russian capture of the famous fortress of Erzerum will have the effect of definitely aligning these warlike tribes against the Turks.

A correspondent of the Petrograd paper *Dyen* states that as a result of Russian successes in the Transcaucasian theatre of war some of the Kurd tribes passed to the Russian side early in January. "The Kurd cannot be bought with gold or a caress," says the correspondent. "I remember a recent incident in a Transcaucasian town. A number of Kurds were brought in as prisoners. These people consider themselves descendants of Solomon. They walked along carrying their iron fetters in their hands, and looked like so many owls blinking in the sun's rays. A woman offered one of them a jug of milk; he took the pitcher silently and poured the milk on the ground with a proud gesture.

"Success is the only argument which will bring the warlike and absolutely fearless Kurdish tribes to our side. In many of our detachments now Kurds may be seen in the front ranks. Their sheepskin headdresses wave in front of the Russian detachments like yellow oriflammes. Earlier in the war a celebrated chief of an important Kurdish tribe, Shimko, received the decoration of St. Anne from the Russians, in addition to other honours, and yet he attacked our troops very shortly afterwards."

SWEDISH MAIL INCIDENT.

The Foreign Office declares that the statement published that the mails on the Swedish steamer Stockholm were landed at Greenock on Friday is not the case. The letter mails remain on the Stockholm. The parcel mails have been removed for examination, according to the usual procedure.

HUNTING.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

THE WARD UNION.

Date	Meet	Hour
March.		
Wednesday, 1	8-Mile Stone	1.30
Saturday, 4	Dunboyne	1.30

THE KILDARE.

Date	Meet	Hour
February		
Tuesday, 29	Brannoxtown	11. 0
March.		
Thursday, 2	Tinoran Crossroads	11.30
Saturday, 4	Straffan Bridge	11. 0

THE MEATH.

Date	Meet	Hour
February		
Tuesday, 29	Laracor	11. 0
March.		
Friday, 3	Kilmoon	11. 0

HUNTING FIXTURES.

KILKENNY FOXHOUNDS.

February—Monday, 28th, Burnchurch. March—Wednesday, 1st, Windgap; Friday, 3rd, Kilmanagh; Tuesday, 7th, Foyle Bridge; Thursday, 9th, Knockmoylan; Friday, 10th, Paulstown. Meet at 11.30 o'clock.

BOXING.

IRISH COMMAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Irish Command Boxing Championships were brought to a close last night in the Rotunda Rink, in the presence of a splendid attendance, which included Major-General Friend, C.B., and Staff, and a thoroughly representative gathering of the officers of the Dublin garrison. During the morning the several competitions had been advanced to the third round, and the programme set for decision at night was thus the most attractive of the week. Heretofore the championships had been held at the Curragh, but the experiment of bringing them off this year in Dublin was attended by marked success, and, as a result, the fund for promoting comforts for the Irish soldiers at front must have benefited to a satisfactory extent. The boxing yesterday maintained a capital standard, but naturally enough the closing stages furnished the best sport of the week. Perhaps the most interesting bout of the night was the middle-weights between Sergeant Leeson and Sergeant M'Quill, as, while the former was the cleverer ring general and the harder hitter, the latter showed smart form by taxing the ex-Army Champion at every stage. Lance-Corporal Stout, the winner of the feather weights, is a very clever two-handed boxer, and his footwork completely nonplussed his opponent, a game, sturdy boxer, but lacking in the finish of the winner. Private Donnelly won the light weights by beating Sergeant Buck in the final, the winner being none other than Tom Donnelly, who a few years ago, presented decidedly useful form as a civilian. His leading and clever defensive work were the features of a good battle with the fusilier. Sergeant Fennelly was a somewhat easy winner of the light heavies, for he was quicker with his blows and placed them to better advantage than did his opponent with his. The special six two-minute round contest between Constable O'Neill, D.M.P., and Private Leeming finished in the second round, O'Neill being entirely too strong for his opponent. At the conclusion the prizes were distributed to the winners by Major-General Friend. Details:—

BANTAM-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Hood (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Lawlor (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Williams (10th Royal Irish Fusiliers).
Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Rifleman Roy (5th Royal Irish Rifles).

Semi-Finals.

Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Caulfield beat Greene.

FEATHER-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Dukes (5th Royal Irish Rifles).
Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Gordon (County of London Yeomanry).
Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) beat Pte. Waddle (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Ward (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.), who retired injured in the second round.
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Final.

Stout beat Hanrahan, the winner having lots the better of the three rounds.

LIGHT-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Corpl. Tiernan (4th Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Pte. Stokes (Lancs. Hussars, Yeomanry).
Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Tynan (County of London Yeomanry).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Drummer Bathe (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Final.

Donnelly beat Burke. Donnelly forced the fighting all through, and was an easy winner.

WELTER-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. O'Dea (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Rifleman Maguire (4th Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Monaghan (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dorgan (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers), disqualified for holding.
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) knocked out Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Coogan beat Conway, who took heavy punishment in the first round before the referee stopped the bout.

MIDDLE-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Lce.-Corpl. Marshall (5th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Munckton (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Pte. Filter (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry) beat Drummer Murphy (3rd Royal Irish Regt.).

Semi-finals.

Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.), after an extra round.
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry).

Final.

Leeson beat McQuill in a splendidly-contested bout, Leeson's leading standing him in good stead.

LIGHT-HEAVY-WEIGHTS.
Semi-finals.

Pte. O'Brien (3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers) beat Pte. Noonan (3rd Leinster Regt.).
Sergt. Fennelly (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Sergt. Mahoney (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Fennelly beat O'Brien, in a poor bout.

OFFICERS' CATCH WEIGHTS.
Semi-finals.

Second Lieut. Elvidge (5th Connaught Rangers) beat Second Lieut. Gallwey (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Lieut. Tweedy (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Second Lieut. Minch (3rd Connaught Rangers).

Final.

Lieut. Tweedy beat Second Lieut. Elvidge, the latter being disqualified for using the shoulder.

SPECIAL SIX-ROUND CONTEST.

Constable O'Neill (D.M.P.) v. Pte. Leeming (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

A terrific contest while it lasted. Leeming took two counts of eight and nine respectively in the first round, and was knocked out early in the second.

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

	Pts.		Pts.
Mountjoy School	13	Portora Royal School	0
Curragh Garrison	0	South Irish Horse	0

ASSOCIATION.

IRISH CUP REPLAY.

	Goals.		Goals.
*Bohemians	3	Shelbourne	0

INTERMEDIATE CUP.

	Goals.		Goals.
Frankfort	3	Old Timers (Derry)	2

* Abandoned, with sixteen minutes to play, owing to bad weather.

BANKERS [illegible] WITH NEUTRALS

The Foreign Trade Department of the Foreign Office forwards the following for publication:—

BANKING TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO SHIPMENTS TO NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

Merchants and others are reminded that where a letter of credit is issued for the financing of merchandise shipped either from the United Kingdom or from overseas to a neutral country in Europe, or where documents relating to the shipment of such goods are handled in any form by banks or other institutions in this country, the banks and institutions are required, before undertaking the business, to insist upon the production of a declaration, signed by the consignee and countersigned by the consignee's banker in the neutral country, that the goods are for consumption only in the country to which they are shipped. The form of declaration may be obtained from any banker in the United Kingdom. The absence of such declarations has caused prejudicial delays.

GOODS FOR DENMARK.

In the case of articles coming within the scope of the agreement of the 19th November, 1915, between His Majesty's Government and the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen and the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, a declaration that the goods in question are duly covered by a guarantee, given either by the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen or by the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, as the case may be, is required in lieu of the usual declaration.

STEAMER ASHORE.

A Lloyd's Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire, telegram states that the Danish steamer Bogatyr, from Seville for Middlesbro', is ashore south of Chapel Point. Fourteen of the crew came ashore in a boat. The captain reports nine unaccounted for.

MARKET REPORTS.

Grain.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Foreign wheat irregular, and from 3d. to 1/- down on the week; English unaltered. Maize 6d. to 1/- dearer. Oats in sellers' favour. Flour at nominally last week's prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba wheat, 77/-; No. 2, 76/-; No. 3, 75/-; hard winter, 74/- to 74/6; English, 60/- to 64/-; maize, 55/- to 55/6; beans, 58/6; flour, 51/6 to 54/6.

CARLISLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Supply continues small, and trade quiet at to-day's quotations, 12/- for three imperial bushels.

Cattle.

DONCASTER CATTLE MARKET, February 26.—Owing to the storm, supplies of cattle and sheep were much below the average, and buyers were few, trade being quiet, especially for milch beasts, which made £24 to £29; bullocks, £17 to £23; heifers, £16 to £20; stirks, £10 to £14 per head. Sheep slow, and only a few ewes offered; whilst young pigs were absent, and strong stores made 33/- to 40/- each.

Provisions.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET, February 26.—Our market was rather better supplied this morning with all classes of seasonable vegetables. Demand very active, especially for cabbages, and extreme prices well maintained. An early clearance of everything effected. Quotations:—York cabbages, 20/- to 30/- to 34/- to 41/-; Savoys, 37/- to 45/- and 53/- to 60/- per load; Swede turnips, 1/1 to 1/6 per cwt.; cauliflowers, best, 4/- to 7/6; seconds, 2/- to 3/6 per flasket; parsley, 10d. to 1/- per float; celery, 1/6 to 2/6 per bunch; parsnips, 1/3 per dozen bunches; ditto, per cwt., 3/6 to 4/-; carrots, 9d. to 1/- per dozen bunches; Brussels sprouts, 2/- to 2/6 per float; rhubarb, 1/6 to 3/- per dozen bunches; beet, 5d. to 7d. per bunch; white turnips, 6d. to 9d. and 1/- per bunch.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE POTATO MARKET, Feb. 26.—Market well supplied with potatoes. Demand steady for prime qualities, and prices well maintained; secondary and inferior grades continue a drag. Best Up-to-Dates, 3/4 to 3/8; Skerry Blues, 5/- per cwt.; others at prices to clear.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET, February 26.—Only a few packages of white fish up this morning from local trawlers and country smacks; 2 packages of salmon, and 9 chests of lobsters. Salmon, per lb., 1/1 to 1/6; lobsters, per 13, best, 15/- to 20/-; soles, per 9 pairs, large, 20/- to 25/-; medium, 15/- to 17/6; slips, 6/- to 8/-; plaice, per half-box, 15/- to 20/-; cod, 10/- to 12/-; ray, 10/- to 15/-.

BILLINGSGATE FISH MARKET, February 25.—Supply liberal; demand poor. Soles, 2/6; slips, 2/3; red mullet, 2/-; dories, 7d. per lb.; turbot, 13/-; brill, 12/-; halibut, 14/-; lemon soles, 12/6; English plaice, 9/-; Aberdeen, 9/-; Dutch, 7/-; Faroe, 7/-; hake, 9/-; skate, 7/-; live cod, 4/-; dead, 3/-; whiting 6/-; gurnet, 6/- per stone; steamer haddocks, 24/- to 42/-; per trunk; live eels, 22/-; dead, 20/- per draft; lobsters, 30/- to 80/- per score; crabs, 25/- per hamper.

GRIMSBY FISH MARKET, February 26.—Seven trawlers landed very poor supplies; prices easier on a fair demand. Soles, 2/9 to 3/-; turbot, 1/2 to 1/3; brills, 1/- to 1/2 per lb.; English plaice, 10/- to 10/6; medium, 9/6 to 10/-; lemon soles, 14/6 to 15/-; whitings, 8/3 to 8/6; dead halibut, 15/- to 22/-; live cod, 5/- to 5/6; dead, 3/6 to 5/-; kit haddocks, 7/6 to 8/-; gibbed, 9/3 to 9/6 per stone.

LONDON CENTRAL MEAT MARKET, February 26.—Beef—Scotch long sides, 5/10 to 6/-; short, 6/- to 6/4; English sides, 5/7 to 5/10; Irish, 5/7 to 5/10; Argentine hindquarters, 5/8. Mutton—Scotch tegs, 7/- to 8/-; wethers, 6/- to 7/-; ewes, 5/6 to 6/-; New Zealand wethers, 5/3 to 5/4; ewes, 5/-; veal, English, 5/- to 7/4; pork, English, 6/8 to 7/10.

LONDON BORO' AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKET, February 26.—Supplies of fair extent occupied moderate attention at generally steady prices. Quotations:—Best Dunbars, 130/-; Kents, 85/- to 95/-; Essex, 80/- to 95/-; Lincolns, 85/- to 105/-; Bedfords, 85/- to 100/-; Scotch Maincrops, 110/- to 115/-; King Edwards, 80/- to 100/-; Up-to-Dates, 80/- to 95/-, and Blacklands, 75/- to 85/- per ton.

CLYDE CRUSHED SUGAR MARKET, February 26.—Official Report—Market closed without change; a fair business done.

Butter.

LITTLE GREEN WHOLESALE BUTTER AND EGG MARKET, February 26.—Butter markets quiet at recent advance. Fair offerings of eggs, and move more freely, the easier currencies giving stimulus to business. Quotations:—Best average farmers' hen eggs, 14/8 to 15/6 per 120; choice, fresh, extra selected, 13/8 to 14/-; ordinary and dealers' [illegible] seconds, smalls, etc., 11/- to 12/8; duck eggs, 16/- to 16/8.

CORK BUTTER MARKET, February 26.—Thirds, 90/-; fresh butter, 133/- per cwt.

Miscellaneous.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (First Report), February 26.—First estimated sales, 8,000 bales, including 4,000 late yesterday. [illegible]

Hay and Straw.

LONDON HAY AND STRAW MARKET, February 26.—Moderate arrivals passed off with a good demand at generally late rates. Quotations:—Best meadow hay, 135/6 to 137/6; good, 107/6 to 122/6; best clover, 130/- to 140/-; good, 120/- to 127/6; best clover and ryegrass mixture, 132/6 to 140/-; good, 117/6 to 122/6; best sainfoin, 127/6 to 135/-; best Lucerne, 115/- to 120/-. Straw, 40/- to 50/- per load, delivered.

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UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

SUBMARINES AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT WILSON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

The Administration now believes that no action will be taken in Congress in opposition to President Wilson's wishes, as the ardour of the majority of Congressmen who favour the warning of Americans not to travel by armed ships has apparently cooled under the lash of the President's Note to Mr. Stone. It is authoritatively stated that reports received at the White House from the Capitol show that the Senate and the House of Representatives stand firmly behind President Wilson in his refusal to permit an abridgment of the rights of Americans by the Germans.

GENESIS OF DR. WILSON'S LETTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The President's letter was given out about midnight. It was in reply to a letter during the afternoon from Senator Stone, in which he said he found it difficult, from a sense of duty and responsibility, to consent to plunge the nation into the vortex of world war because of the unreasonable obstinacy of any of the Powers, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, of the foolhardiness, amounting to a sort of moral treason against the public, of our people recklessly risking their lives on armed belligerent ships. Senator Stone assured the President that he wanted to support him and meant to do so to the last limit, but he wanted to talk with him and Mr. Lansing with the utmost frankness, and to have the President's counsel and advice regarding the course of events. In the meantime, he continued, I am striving to prevent anything being done by any Senator or member calculated to embarrass your negotiations. You should be left free to act diplomatically as you think best to settle the questions involved.

PRESS OPINION.

The *Tribune*, the leading organ of the party opposed to the President, says that the Democratic party and the Democratic leaders in Congress are simply playing a part, which means the betrayal of their own country for political or pecuniary gain. No Republican member should mistake the duty now before him. The Democrats in Congress have sold out to the Germans. They have turned over the legislative machinery to the agents of the German Government in this country. Terrified by the fact that the executive branch of our Government has begun to perceive that what German statesmanship asks is not concession, but unconditional compliance, German agents have gone to the Capitol, and are using the cowardice, selfishness, and greed of Democratic politicians to dominate the policy of the nation and to coerce the Executive. The question of war or peace abroad is of comparative insignificance. The real issue is domestic, and the real peril is at home. The party which at the moment controls the majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives, for the sake of the political profit it expects to bring home, has deliberately betrayed American interests, and is seeking to surrender American rights to Germany.

THE ATTACK ON A TANK STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

A Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* states, regarding Austria-Hungary's reply to the United States request for an explanation of the attack by an Austrian submarine on the American tank steamer Petrolite, that the explanation given is unsatisfactory, and that a strong protest will probably follow from the United States Government. The correspondent understands that the Austrian explanation is to the effect that the submarine commander fired on the Petrolite because he believed she was about to attack, and that he thought the vessel's flying the American flag was merely a trick. The Austrian Note is stated to add that the captain of the Petrolite furnished the submarine with supplies gratuitously and of his own free will. This account does not correspond in any particular with the American reports of the incident.

BERLIN'S VERSION OF THE NAVAL VIEW.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* says:—The *Berliner Tageblatt* publishes a telegram from Lugano, stating that, according to American cables received there, the American Navy is urging President Wilson to accept the German standpoint regarding the submarine warfare, as in the probable, though not certain, war between Japan and the United States this would be the latter's best weapon.

STEADY FALL OF THE MARK.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)
COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.70 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 20th, and [illegible] normally.

STOCKHOLM, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.75 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 21st, and [illegible] normally.

BERNE, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 94.70, against 95.50 on Tuesday, and 123.45 francs normally, that on London per £ sterling was 25.13 francs, against 25 francs on Tuesday, and 25.30 francs normally.

CHINESE THRONE.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S ACCESSION POSTPONED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PEKIN, THURSDAY (DELAYED).

A mandate has been issued officially postponing the accession of Yuan Shih-Kai to the throne, owing to [illegible] the Yunnanese. Reports from Szechuan, received via Kweichow, show little change in the situation since the Yunnanese were driven back towards Suifu. There has been some fighting south of Luchow, in which the Government troops were successful, but the engagements have only been of small importance up to now. The Government claims to have defeated the rebels south of [illegible], fifty miles south of Chunking. The rebels have made raids across the Hunan-Kweichow border, but up to now have not come into contact with the Government forces in this area, while combined Kwangtung and Kwangsi troops, which are stationed at [illegible], are unable to advance at present owing to lack of transports to bring up supplies. West of the Yangtse River no serious fighting is expected till the bulk of the northern forces reach the southern Szechuan-Hunan-Kweichow border. Government circles still express confidence in the speedy suppression of the revolt.

INCREASED PRICE OF SUGAR.

The Press Bureau announces that the following notice has been received from the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply that, as from Monday next, the prices of sugar put upon the market by the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply will be advanced by 3s. per cwt. Retailers are reminded that, by agreement between the Royal Commission and representative bodies, dealers may make, on their transactions, profit limited to the discount allowed them on their purchases.

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

POLITICAL RUMOUR.

There is a rumour, says *Reynolds's Newspaper*, that, owing to the taking over of the work of the blockade by Lord Robert Cecil, an additional Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs will shortly be appointed. The name of Mr. Neil Primrose, who retired from the Foreign Office on the formation of the Coalition Government, is freely mentioned in this connection. Mr. Primrose, who was some time in the Dardanelles, is now with his regiment in Egypt.

ITALY'S POET PATRIOT.

INJURED IN AEROPLANE ACCIDENT.

In a message despatched from Paris on Saturday, the special correspondent of *Lloyd's News* says:—A Rome telegram to the *Petit Parisien* says that Signor Gabrielle d'Annunzio, now a Lieutenant in the Italian Army, has been taken to hospital in Venice, having been injured in the right eye in an aeroplane accident. The physicians hope to save the sight of the eye. Gabrielle d'Annunzio, Italy's poet patriot, inspired by the Mazzini and Garibaldi spirit of devotion to the cause of his fellow-countrymen, has exercised a marvellous influence on the nation. His love of England and hatred of Austria are the typical love and hate of his race, magnified by the fervour of genius. More than any other man in Italy, d'Annunzio is responsible for the part his country is taking in the present conflict, and he was the first to give to the world the news that the Triple Alliance had been broken.

GERMANY'S DESPERATE OFFENSIVE.

The Military Correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch*, explaining the meaning of Germany's desperate offensive, says:—It has to be said that it again demonstrates the quick realisation by the Germans of the tangible facts of the military situation. The Germans see that the waiting policy serves no German purpose; rather does it play into the hands of the Allies, who are rapidly co-ordinating their military plans. On the other hand, they know that if an offensive has sufficient weight behind it, and men and material are a matter of indifference, the most strongly defended line must give way. The offensive can always make headway if it is prepared to pay the cost, as we showed the Germans in a rather muddled way at Neuve Chapelle; in a less muddled, but still not brilliant, fashion, at Loos, and in a more scientific form in the Champagne, and as they themselves, best of all, have shown Europe in the wonderfully conceived and wonderfully carried-out Galician drive. The Germans means to win this war. It is now or never for them. They have ceased to believe in the prospect of detaching any of the Allies by means of a separate peace, and are returning to their original design, which was to capture Paris. They have failed to reach Paris by an attack bearing due south; they are trying now to reach Paris by an attack directed from the east.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS TO BE SUSPENDED.

Writing from the cross benches of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Lucy says in the *Observer*:—Suspicions that the Prime Minister has decided to intermit for the duration of the war the payment of members will probably be confirmed before the session is many days older. Economy, like charity, should begin at home. The spectacle of the House of Commons preaching—even compelling—denial in others, whilst continuing to receive full payment of salaries conceded just before the outbreak of a war involving fabulous costs, is not conducive either to respect for itself or to furtherance of the national object it advocates. Payment of members is a breach of a time-honoured distinction, for centuries exclusively possessed by the mother of Parliaments. It was introduced little more than four years ago, at a time when the national revenue was advancing by leaps and bounds, and nobody but the Kaiser and his General Staff thought of war. The grant certainly would not have been made under present conditions, and it is these that have to be dealt with.

NOW OR NEVER.

Whatever happens at Verdun, let no one think that the Allies in the West are thrown on the defensive, or doubt their power and intention to retaliate with a vengeance, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin, in the *Observer*. They keep their own plans; they bide their own hour. We shall not have very long to wait, and the conflict which the enemy seeks to precipitate before the ground is dry for the Russians will dwarf all that has been known in the West. March is almost upon us; with March the spring, in spite of the snow, with spring, the months when the whole sequel of this war must be determined. If we read aright, there is more hope than peril in the enemy's great attempt to breach the eastern rampart of France. The enemy has every reason to seek a solution, at any cost, to mask his real plans, or at least to anticipate the Allies offensive, and force the decisive campaign. By sea and land alike, it is now or never with Germany. There is an end of the waiting of armies, as of the sleep of nature, and the war on all sides is as quiet with energy as the earth with sap.

EXECUTION OF A GERMAN SPY.

OWNED HE DESERVED THE DEATH PENALTY.

There was a grim scene at the execution of a spy on the Vincennes military ground, says the Paris correspondent of *Lloyd's News*, in a message dated Saturday. The man was sentenced to death by the Paris courtmartial at the beginning of January. He was a tall, handsome young fellow of twenty-five, whose identity is not quite definite. He is supposed to be Italian by birth, and pretended to have been naturalised, successively, in Argentina and Switzerland. Serious were the charges against him, as the details concerning the affair were kept secret, and the case was heard *in camera* by the courtmartial, and the Kaiser's spy agent was sentenced to death. He appealed twice against the sentence, but his appeals were rejected. The President of the Republic refused to reprieve the young spy. Before proceeding to the execution, the prisoner said: "I recognise my guilt, and I really deserve the punishment I am going to have." On the way to the military ground the prisoner, who was guarded by gendarmes, told them:—"If I was to be let free I can assure you I would not do again what I have done. I was a fool." The prisoner, deadly pale, refused to have his hands tied and his eyes covered with a handkerchief, as is generally done. With remarkable care, he took off his large, soft hat and threw it on the ground, and turned towards the twelve soldiers who were going to shoot him. An officer read out the sentence, trumpets sounded, and the non-commissioned officer in command of the company commanded "Fire" with his sword. A sharp volley rang out, and the spy fell dead with several bullets through his heart. The troops marched past the dead body, which was afterwards taken to the Vincennes Cemetery.

A GOOD STORY.

A good story, illustrative of the muddle in which the Government arrangements have now left the question of aircraft defence, is being related by Mr. Arthur Lynch, M.P., says one of the special political correspondents of the *Weekly Dispatch*. It concerns a sentry on the East coast, who was asked if he understood his duties in the event of the approach of hostile aircraft. "Certainly," he replied; "it is like this: If I see a German military aeroplane coming I have to call on the Army to deal with it. If it is a naval aeroplane I call on the Navy. If it is a Zeppelin, I'm done."

JACK JOHNSON OFF TO BUENOS AYRES.

Jack Johnson, the negro boxer, has been invited to leave England. When asked on Saturday night by the Northampton correspondent of the *Weekly Dispatch* why he was taking his departure, he fired back straight from the shoulder, as it were, "To fight." "Whom?" queried the correspondent. "Oh, I don't quite know," he responded. "I think Sam Langford or McVea. It must be one of those two. You see, Kleigin, who arranged my fight with Willard, has offered me, on behalf of a syndicate, £10,000 as my end of the purse, including the picture rights, for a fight in South America, and I have accepted. I had to come away from London to-day in a hurry, so I do not know my opponent. I shall know to-morrow, and I meet Kleigin to settle the details." Jack Johnson's ultimate destination is Buenos Ayres.

LATEST NEWS.

ENTENTE POWERS AND AMERICAN NOTE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

Mr. Lansing announces that one of the Entente Powers has answered his suggestion regarding disarmament of merchant ships, but does not state which Power, nor the nature of the reply.

The Associated Press says it learns that Italy has sent a reply to Mr. Lansing's suggestion, in which she merely points out that Italian liners, when clearing from American ports, give pledges not to use their armament except for defence.

THE GERMAN RIOTS.

Telegraphing from Paris on Saturday, the *Daily Chronicle* correspondent in Paris says—According to a message from Amsterdam, fresh riots took place in Berlin recently. Mounted police charged and many people were injured.

According to the *Vorwaerts*, violent demonstrations have been taking place at Halle when there were no potatoes for sale last week. Stormy scenes took place at the last sitting of the Prussian Land Tag, according to the *Lokalanzeiger*. Answering Socialist attacks, Herr Osten, a Conservative member, read a circular which is being secretly distributed in Germany. It says:—

"While on a single word from the military authorities fathers are being sent to slaughter, these very same authorities are incapable of making the landowners take their pigs to the slaughterhouse. Is it, then, that the husbands and sons of our German women are not of the same value as pigs?"

These words caused commotion, while Herr Liebknecht shouted, "Quite so."

TURKISH REIGN OF TERROR.

A *Weekly Dispatch* cable from Athens says: It is reported that Ahmed Risa, President of the Chamber, and Prince Izzed Din, with numerous others, have been arrested at Constantinople for the supposed part taken by them in the recent disturbances that followed on the fall of Erzerum.

KING OF SPAIN'S HEALTH.

Reynolds's Newspaper says:—Once again the health of the King of Spain is causing some anxiety. Although to outward appearances perfectly well, he is a great sufferer from his throat, and is about to undergo several days' treatment at the hands of the famous Dr. Moore, who resides at St. Sebastian.

NEW GERMAN POISON GAS FACTORY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to the *Echo Belge*, the Germans have collected a considerable number of troops in Flanders, and artillery reinforcements have been continually arriving since December. Not less than eighteen attacks were made recently, the paper says, against a small front at Steenstraete, on the Commines Canal, south of Hill 160. Only two attacks had some success, but the German losses must have been terrible. Their killed and wounded are estimated here to number 17,000. The enemy has erected at Schoonaerde a new poison gas factory.

PHILANTHROPIST'S LARGE ESTATE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ADELAIDE, SATURDAY.

The estate of the late Mr. Robert Barr Smith, the well known philanthropist, who died on November 22nd last, is valued at £1,800,000.

DUTCH NEWSPAPERS INTERDICTED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to a telegram from Vienna, copies of the *Telegraaf*, the Dutch pro-Ally newspaper, are not allowed to enter Austria by post.

LABOUR BODIES AND THE WAGES QUESTION.

The Prime Minister has consented to receive a deputation at the House of Commons from various Labour bodies on Tuesday, to press for modification of the Government decision to limit increases of wages, except where the local wages circumstances require adjustment. The deputation will include representatives from the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, the National Executive of the Labour Party, the National Advisory Committee on War Output, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. The Labour Party announces the appointment of a sub-committee to consider labour questions affecting labour likely to arise after the war on the demobilisation of the troops. The Committee are approaching other union bodies with a view to joint action, and an early preliminary announcement regarding plans and suggestions for dealing with the matter of soldiers being transferred to munition work are required to sign an undertaking to return to military service as soon as munition employment ceases, the wages to be the district rate, or Army pay and an allowance, whichever is granted.

HIGHER WAGES FOR BRISTOL TRANSPORT WORKERS.

It was announced on Saturday that Bristol transport shore workers have received advances in wages which amount to nearly £100,000 per annum. The concession benefits about 10,000 men, who in most cases have received increases of 3s. to 4s. a week for day work and a penny an hour for night work.

LADY SPAIGHT'S WILL.

Dame Elizabeth Spaight, widow of Sir James Spaight, of Derry Castle, Tipperary, whose will has just been proved, left £13,501.

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN'S STORY.

Here is a little story that will interest Irish readers, thinks the writer of Secret History in *Reynolds's Newspaper*:—A Connemara lady, named Bridget Joyce, from the Joyce country, was sobbing out to Father Bernard Vaughan the sad news of how she had lost her husband and her son on the high seas. "Ah, Father," she said, "my heart is broken, for without them all is dark and sad and silent." Father Bernard took his dear friend by the hand and said: "Bridget, my child, God has rung up your dear ones before you, that you may have the joy of meeting them on the doorstep of our Celtic home, Heaven. They were brave to do, as you are brave to bear. So you shall meet in the home of the brave, where never again you will part." "Ah, Father, dear," she exclaimed, "it is thrue for you, and your words to me are as honey to the bees in summer. In future, please God, my troubles shall sit upon my heart as lightly as the thistledown on a briar bush."

WESTERN FIELD OF WAR.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

exhaustible, and reinforcements continue to pour into the threatened sector.

OBJECT OF THE ATTACK ON TAHURE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The *Petit Parisien* says—The attack which the Germans began on February 12th in the Tahure region was of an isolated character, and was effected by the enemy in order to mask the great offensive which they were preparing against Verdun, and in order to compel the French to concentrate their effectives at the point where they were attacking. The assault clearly had in view, the paper continues, the conquest of two salients of our line. Before one of them was the 185th German Infantry Regiment, before the other the 31st Regiment. A formidable supply of artillery had been assembled by the enemy on this narrow front, as well as numerous trench mortars, and thirty batteries of numerous calibre. These opened a violent fire, increasing in intensity, on our trenches and their accessory defences. Our gunners replied and bombarded without cessation the German trenches, whose occupants appeared to be very disturbed by the accuracy of our fire. The Germans, after using explosive shells, employed asphyxiating gasses, but the wind, evidently intending to do them ill, turned against them. Gusts of fire also dispersed the gas, and frequently threw it back on their own trenches. Greatly upset by this unexpected *contretemps*, the Germans, who had orders at all costs to divert our attention by a prolonged attack, took the offensive. About five o'clock two mines were exploded with a great noise, hurling up great masses of earth on all sides, and then jets of flaming liquid were turned in the direction of our infantry some minutes before the attack. These jets were directed by special pioneers with the aid of machines called flammen verfer. The attack then began. The German infantry tried to leave their trenches, but without obtaining any serious success. Prisoners said that the attack had been preceded by full-dress rehearsals, but the result of the attack was at no spot in proportion to the care and efforts bestowed on it.

EFFECT IN THE UNITED STATES.

FALL IN GERMAN EXCHANGE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The great German offensive against Verdun has had the most significant counter-part in the further decline of the German exchange in New York. In face of seemingly adverse news from Paris, the French exchange rose to the highest point touched for many days, French cheques being quoted at 5.87 sterling, and the Anglo-French Bonds remained firm, while the rates for German exchange went down to 13 cents for 4 marks, only 1 cent above the lowest record. Wall street enthusiastically endorses the stand taken by the President against Congress, and expresses the utmost confidence in the ability of the French to withstand the German onslaught.

THE KAISER AT WILHELMSHAVEN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

According to the *Wilhelmshavener Zeitung*, the Kaiser visited Wilhelmshaven last Wednesday morning. After inspecting the various warships and conferring with the Chief of the North Sea Staff he left the same evening.

GERMAN OFFICER'S VIEWS.

BREACH WITH AMERICA ADVANTAGEOUS.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* publishes the views of a high German naval officer on submarine warfare, and the questions connected therewith. The officer said that the view which is shared by the majority of German naval officers is that a complete breach between Germany and America would be conducive to a far earlier victorious termination of the war, but only on condition that Germany derived all the results logically arising out of such a breach. As soon as we need have no more consideration for the United States, we can wage naval war with the same ruthlessness as the British have hitherto done, and, like the latter, set up our own sea laws. We could immediately declare all Great Britain and Ireland blockaded, and announce that every ship, of whatever flag, that tried to enter a British harbour would, on entering the war zone, be regarded as a blockade runner and be destroyed without warning, so as to eliminate the hitherto existing tricks, especially as past experience shows that every merchant vessel is armed.

In reply to the contention of statesmen that the sinking of neutral merchant ships without warning would provoke neutral indignation, the officer said—The indignation of neutrals in a matter that touches our existence can influence us as little as it influences at present the British, who, unhindered, constantly trample on the rights of neutrals. It would, moreover, be a far greater act of barbarity to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of your own country's children by an unduly protracted war. The officer thinks his policy would lead to the starvation of Great Britain, and thus to her submission, and automatically to the submission of Russia and France. America would then be isolated and would have to submit, because Germany, having obtained from her other beaten opponents the transfer to Germany of all their great battleships and submarines, would be seven times stronger on sea than America, which, when beaten, would have to surrender all the German merchantmen which she has seized and also pay all their costs of the Central Powers and their allies.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Flying Officer—Second Lieutenant Denis O. Mulholland, the Connaught Rangers, Special Reserve, and seconded.

INFANTRY.

Royal Munster Fusiliers—Second Lieutenants to be Lieutenants—T. H. Poingdestre, T. Price.

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Royal Irish Rifles—Second Lieutenant (on probation) J. M. Higgins resigns his commission on account of ill-health.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
INFANTRY.
SERVICE BATTALIONS.

Royal Irish Regiment—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—M. J. Dalton, F. J. G. Ellison, M. L. Roche, E. P. Tydd, R. U. B. White, H. Trenaman, W. I. Hanzon.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—S. McConnell, R. G. Neill, R. W. Topp.

Royal Irish Rifles—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—A. M. Dunn, A. W. Holinshead.

Royal Irish Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—R. V. Jackson, J. J. Kennedy, H. S. Lee.

Connaught Rangers—A. Ribbons to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)—N. D. Prendergast to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Munster Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. Molony, D. Hickey, R. O'Connell, H. Waring.

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—G. G. T. Browne, N. B. Harris, P. J. Walsh, A. J. Carrigg, J. H. E. Harris, R. L. Higgins, H. C. Poulter. Temporary Second Lieutenant R. F. Hilliard relinquishes his commission.

SECOND RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—A. R. Booth to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—Temporary Second Lieutenant G. A. Nolan to be temporary Second Lieutenant. To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. R. Brereton-Barry, W. M. Calwell, J. J. Clancy, H. H. Cross, J. Corry, A. W. Henchy, J. Keenan, C. M. Molony, C. P. Close.

LOCAL RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—B. St. J. Main to be temporary Quartermaster, with the honorary rank of Lieutenant.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenant:—

INFANTRY.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—Private G. H. Gibson.

GEORGE YOUNGER AND SON.

The directors of George Younger and Son have declared dividends of 10 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares and 5s. per share on the Deferred Shares. This is the same as last year.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following casualty in the Canadian Contingent with the Expeditionary Force is reported:

WOUNDED.

BOYCE, Lieut. C. D., 19th Canadian Infantry Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported from General Headquarters, under date 20th February, 1916:—

WOUNDED.

BUCHANAN, Second Lieut. A. G. W. A., Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 12th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
BUCKMASTER, Lieut. H. H., West Yorks. Regt., 10th Batt.
BURNAND, Second Lieut. G. M., Lancs. Fusiliers, 9th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
COLLINS, Second Lieut. C. H., Royal Warwicks. Regt., 13th Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.
HUGALL, Second Lieut. J. G., Durham L.I., 17th Batt., attached 2nd Batt.
NORMAN, Lieut. C. M., Rifle Brigade, 10th Batt.
PATTEN, Second Lieut. A. G. B., Suffolk Regt., attached 4th Batt. (T.F.).
PATTINSON, Second Lieut. G. H., Royal Fusiliers, 9th Batt.
STEWART, Second Lieut. E. W., Durham L.I., 14th Batt.

MISSING.

GARLICK, Second Lieut. F. A., Royal Flying Corps.
KNOX, Capt. W., Cameron Highlanders, 3rd Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported under various dates:—

WOUNDED.

CORDEN, Second Lieut. G. S., London Regt. (T.F.), 3rd Batt., Royal Fusiliers, attached 22nd Batt. The Queen's.
DAVIS, Second Lieut. W., Royal Engineers.
TRENDELL, Second Lieut. C. H., West Yorks. Regt., 11th Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MESOPOTAMIA.

The following casualty amongst non-commissioned officers of the Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 2nd BATTALION.
Lyons, 9030, Corporal J.

The following casualty in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 1st BATT.
Bane, 3022, Private J.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Expeditionary Force are reported from the Base, under date 17th February, 1916:—

KILLED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Manship, 12136, Acting Corporal O.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Magee, 19302, Private H.
ROYAL IRISH RIFLES, 12th BATT. (CENTRAL ANTRIM).
Sempey, 19751, Corporal J.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Burke, 3748, Pte. T.; Hill, 10272, Pte. E.; Hudson, 4814, Pte. E.; Judge, 4678, Pte. T.; Nolan, 56, Corpl. P.; Sexton, 4358, Pte. P.; Ward, 3607, Pte. S.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Urwin, 19373, Lance-Corporal W.
CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 6th BATT.
Heaney, 3780, Private J.

Previously reported wounded, now reported died of wounds:—

IRISH GUARDS, 1st BATT.
French, 8741, Private W.

WOUNDED.

ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Coll, 3660, Private J.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Deery, 4298, Pte. W.; McCoy, 11007, Pte. J.; McGoldrick, 6955, Pte. J.; Mercer, 8613, Pte. S.; O'Kane, 3275, Pte. C.; White, 7605, Lce.-Corpl. W.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Owens, 16311, Pte. C. R.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Cassidy, 2996, Pte. J.; Coleman, 10298, Pte. M.; Conroy, 7394, Pte. T.; Corrigan, 3719, Pte. J.; Curran, 3251, Pte. P.; Davies, 4728, Pte. B.; Davis, 6645, Pte. J.; Donovan, 4455, Pte. A.; Duffy, 4830, Pte. J.; Duffy, 3357, Pte. M.; Duggan, 10645, Pte. W.; Kirwan, 3595, Lce.-Corpl. J.; Lawless, 5009, Pte. B.; McDonnell, 4851, Pte. T.; Moore, 9131, Pte. J.; Naylor, 9998, Pte. H.; Steepe, 10204, Pte. D.; Thompson, 6270, Sgt. H.; Whelan, 1538, Pte. J.
ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 8th BATT.
Halligan, 23070, Pte. H.; Tait, 14613, Sgt. T.

WOUNDED, SHOCK-SHELL.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Gorry, 4279, Private P.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men are reported from Mesopotamia under various dates:—

DIED OF WOUNDS.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 1st BATT.
Costello, 10211, Pte. E.; Hannon, 9445, Acting Lce.-Sgt. P.; Hillary, 8790, Pte. F.; Roberts, 4718, Pte. T. W.; Ward, 3108, Pte. B.

The following casualty is reported from the Balkan Expeditionary Force:—

KILLED.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 5th BATT.
Keneavy, 3/3868, Private M.

The following casualty is reported from oversea:—

DIED.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Lally, 3/3437, Private T.

MISSING AIRMAN.

DEATH BY DROWNING.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Bernard Lee was reported missing since February 15, and his relatives have now received from the Admiralty official intimation of his death by drowning.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Lee left to carry out patrol duty. Search for him has been carried out by H.M. ships, but without result. Lieutenant Lee was the younger son of Mr. C. Richards Lee, of the Admiralty, and the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. R. Goulburn Lovell, of Eastbourne. His brother is serving in France in the Seaforth Highlanders. He would have been 21 years old next May. He had served in East Africa, where he went up a river in a boat conveying aeroplanes to be used in connection with the destruction of the German steamer Koenigsberg.

SECLUSION FOR 160,000 SLACKERS.

At a meeting of the Executive of the Scottish mine workers in Glasgow on Saturday it was stated that since the outbreak of war 160,000 men throughout Great Britain had left other occupations for the mines because underground workers were barred from military service.

The Chairman (Mr. Robertson) said that should the war last a considerable time these newcomers would become miners, and trouble would arise when the old miners returned from military service. Military service miners felt very strongly on the subject, because they had responded loyally to the call for soldiers. It was doubtful whether military tribunals had any power to deal with men who had entered mines during the war.

It was agreed that the matter should be brought before the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and that representatives of the men should meet the Scottish mine-owners to ensure the re-employment of miners who have joined the Army, after the war terminated.

GREAT SNOWSTORM IN ENGLAND.

The heavy snowstorm of the last three days still continues in South Shropshire, and the Radnorshire train service is much disorganised. Road traffic is impeded by heavy drifts.

The snowstorm was the cause of a death at Wirksworth Midland Railway Station on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Thomas Midgley, of Duffield, an engineer, came by a Derby train to see his son, and while alighting he slipped on the icy platform, struck a barrow, and died instantly. He was sixty years of age.

SNOW AFFECTS COAL SUPPLY.

The severe snowstorm in Birmingham and district, which was renewed on Saturday, is having a serious affect on the coal supply. For some days operations at the Staffordshire and Warwickshire pits have been virtually suspended. Birmingham merchants have had no deliveries since Wednesday, and on Saturday their stocks were nearly exhausted. Householders who rushed on the market have been unable to obtain supplies, as, owing to the state of the roads, delivery has been possible within only a short radius. The output at many works has been curtailed.

HARSH WEATHER IN DUBLIN.

Winter was keenly felt on Saturday in Dublin. The early hours of the morning were cold but not damp. As the day became older, rain fell intermittently, and great cold added to the unpleasantness of the time. In the afternoon snow began to fall. It did not, however, make any headway, and what fell soon passed into the slush of the streets. The weather was not any better in the evening. It grew, perhaps, worse after dark, and those people who were about the town had disagreeable walking. At eleven o'clock snow was falling appreciably, and the ground had a white covering as theatre-goers and others were passing homeward.

BELGIAN INDUSTRIES.

EXPOSURE OF GERMAN METHODS BY SIR E. GREY.

ALLIES' POLICY DEFENDED.

A memorandum dealing with the industrial question in Belgium has been prepared, and in forwarding it to M. Hymans, the Belgian Minister in London, Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, wrote as follows (February 19, 1916):—

MY DEAR MINISTER,—During the last months you have represented to me frequently the condition of industries in the part of Belgium occupied by the enemy, and the need for imports of raw material if those industries are to be saved from ruin and universal unemployment and distress prevented. I now enclose a memorandum which shows the true state of the case.

I should add that the question here dealt with is entirely distinct from the importation of foodstuffs into Belgium by the Relief Commission, as to which the attitude of His Majesty's Government remains that stated recently in Parliament, that His Majesty's Government will facilitate the work of the Commission as long and in so far as that work is carried on under adequate neutral supervision completely independent of German control and in compliance with the conditions laid down from time to time by His Majesty's Government. (Signed) E. GREY.

Sir Edward Grey's memorandum is as follows:—

It is understood that there is a strong feeling among Belgians that the industrial distress in Belgium is to be attributed solely to the action of the Allied Governments in preventing imports, and it is often contended that this action does not appreciably harm Germany, while it involved the most painful loss to the people of our Ally. As is already known, His Majesty's Government have not been able to agree that Belgian industry can be maintained in present circumstances without very considerable benefit to the enemy, involving a postponement of the restoration of Belgian independence. But at the same time His Majesty's Government have been fully impressed with the necessity of assisting the Belgian population, and it is for this reason that they have supported the Commission for Relief in Belgium, and have permitted export trade from Belgium under certain conditions. It was also for this reason that they decided some months ago to signify their willingness to consider proposals for the importation of raw materials into Belgium through the agency, and under the guarantee, of the Relief Commission. The undertakings demanded from the Germans in connection with this scheme were simple. They were to permit the free importation of raw materials and the export of manufactured goods made from such materials, through the Relief Commission; they were to respect and free from all embargo or requisition any stocks of similar raw materials or manufactured goods still remaining in the country; and they were in general to treat any factory thus supplied by the Commission as enjoying the same privileges and immunities as one of the Commission's warehouses. It was believed that importations under such a system would suffice to reduce unemployment and to relieve the population from much at least of the distress inseparable from their unfortunate position.

POLICY OF THE GERMANS.

This scheme was submitted to the German authorities at Brussels by the Commission four months ago. Inquiries have since been made as to the progress of the negotiations, but without result. Up to the present no reply of any kind has been received from the Germans.

There was never any doubt of what the policy of the Germans really was in this matter, but it has now become clear. While they proclaim to the people of Belgium on every occasion that the ruin of Belgian industry is solely due to the policy of the Allies, while they make capital out of their readiness to give to Belgian manufacturers guarantees that they will not requisition raw materials imported for their factories abroad, they are determined to enter into no arrangement for the relief of Belgian industry until they have taken from the country the last ounce of native stocks of raw material or manufactured goods which can be of any use to them, and until they have been able to create such widespread destitution as to force the requisite amount of Belgian labour to emigrate to Germany, or to take employment in works in Belgium controlled by them for their own purposes. When these objects have been gained, so far as the patriotism and finances of the Belgian manufacturers and workmen will ever permit such objects to be gained, they will, doubtless, express their readiness to make an arrangement whereby the country, once fully drained of all its resources, may be restocked. Before that time arrived this German policy should, therefore, be fully exposed.

Only a few figures need be given in proof of facts so notorious. In one month, October 26-November 26, by one route only there were exported from Belgium to Germany 74,000 tons of coal, 6,100 tons of phosphates, 100 tons of lead, 1,350 tons of ore, 340 tons of pitprops, 1,200 tons of guano, and 1,600 tons of briquettes. In the month immediately preceding this period there were large exportations of the same articles by the same route, besides such items as 840 tons of pyrites, 1,600 casks of tanning extract, 350 tons of extract of lead, and quantities of iron, lead, rubber, and copal. It is well known that at least half the product of the Belgian textile mills has been requisitioned.

Recently the commander-in-chief of the Fourth Army in Belgium issued an order directing, under heavy penalties, that all stocks of cotton should be declared, and prohibiting the working of cottons in future. Indeed, the general policy of the Germans cannot be better illustrated than by the guarantees recently given by them to a prominent Belgian business man, undertaking to respect certain metals, such as steel and copper, essential to the maintenance of one of the chief Belgian industries, upon production of proof that these articles had been imported. The inference is obvious—that any Belgian stocks of such articles would be seized. All the most essential materials in Belgium, such as oil and metals, are controlled by German organisations in the German interest, and cannot be obtained unless the applicant conforms himself to the wishes of the enemy.

This, then, is the position:—His Majesty's Government have made an attempt to provide relief for Belgian industries by importation of raw materials from abroad, in spite of their belief that such importations, even under the safeguards proposed, would result in substantial benefit to the enemy. The German authorities must be presumed from their persistent silence to have refused their consent to the scheme put forward by the relief commission. Their fixed policy of impoverishing the country and driving the workmen into their employment now stands revealed, and His Majesty's Government must disclaim all responsibility towards the Belgian people for evils which the enemy has both caused and refused to remove.

LLOYD'S MAIL NEWS.

ADEN, Friday.—The Nellore, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
ADEN, Wednesday.—The Australian, from Calcutta, arrived.
ADEN, Friday.—The Kashmir, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
BARBADOS, Friday.—The Denis, from Manaos, arrived.
BUENOS AYRES, Friday.—The Amazon, for the United Kingdom, left.
COLOMBO, Friday.—The Sardinia, for London, left.
DEAL, Thursday.—The Catalina, from the United Kingdom for the West Indies, passed.
HONG KONG, Thursday.—The Namur, from Bombay, left.
LIVERPOOL, Friday.—The Demerara, from Buenos Ayres, arrived.
MADEIRA, Thursday.—The Arabia, for London, left.
MARSEILLES, Wednesday.—The Katori Maru, for London, left.
MELBOURNE, Friday.—The Mongolia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
PORT NATAL, Thursday.—The Suwa Maru, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
PORT SAID, Monday.—The Tenasserim, for Liverpool, left.
PORT SAID, Friday.—The Caledonia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
RIO JANEIRO, Thursday.—The Darro, from the United Kingdom for Buenos Ayres, arrived.
SUEZ CANAL, Thursday.—The Ceuta arrived.
TRINIDAD, Wednesday.—The Quillota, for the West Indies and Colon, left.
VICTORIA, Wednesday.—The Awa Maru, from Hong Kong, arrived, and left for Seattle.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

Lord Burnham, presiding on Saturday afternoon at the annual meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund, said that the members of the Press could not have acquitted themselves more worthily than they had during the war. The number of Pressmen who had gone to the front or were engaged in war work compared very favourably with other professions. They had every reason to feel proud and satisfied with the part they were playing wherever their services were required. He regarded the Presidency of the Fund as the blue riband of the profession.

THE FALL OF ERZERUM

EFFECT ON THE KURDS.

A despatch from a Petrograd correspondent contains information regarding the Kurds which makes it clear that the Russian capture of the famous fortress of Erzerum will have the effect of definitely aligning these warlike tribes against the Turks.

A correspondent of the Petrograd paper *Dyen* states that as a result of Russian successes in the Transcaucasian theatre of war some of the Kurd tribes passed to the Russian side early in January. "The Kurd cannot be bought with gold or a caress," says the correspondent. "I remember a recent incident in a Transcaucasian town. A number of Kurds were brought in as prisoners. These people consider themselves descendants of Solomon. They walked along carrying their iron fetters in their hands, and looked like so many owls blinking in the sun's rays. A woman offered one of them a jug of milk; he took the pitcher silently and poured the milk on the ground with a proud gesture.

"Success is the only argument which will bring the warlike and absolutely fearless Kurdish tribes to our side. In many of our detachments now Kurds may be seen in the front ranks. Their sheepskin headdresses wave in front of the Russian detachments like yellow oriflammes. Earlier in the war a celebrated chief of an important Kurdish tribe, Shimko, received the decoration of St. Anne from the Russians, in addition to other honours, and yet he attacked our troops very shortly afterwards."

SWEDISH MAIL INCIDENT.

The Foreign Office declares that the statement published that the mails on the Swedish steamer Stockholm were landed at Greenock on Friday is not the case. The letter mails remain on the Stockholm. The parcel mails have been removed for examination, according to the usual procedure.

HUNTING.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

THE WARD UNION.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
March.		
Wednesday, 1	8-Mile Stone	1.30
Saturday, 4	Dunboyne	1.30

THE KILDARE.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
February		
Tuesday, 29	Brannoxtown	11. 0
March.		
Thursday, 2	Tinoran Cross-roads	11.30
Saturday, 4	Straffan Bridge	11. 0

THE MEATH.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
February		
Tuesday, 29	Laracor	11. 0
March.		
Friday, 3	Kilmoon	11. 0

HUNTING FIXTURES.

KILKENNY FOXHOUNDS.

February—Monday, 28th, Burnchurch. March—Wednesday, 1st, Winsgap; Friday, 3rd, Kilmanagh; Tuesday, 7th, Foyle Bridge; Thursday, 9th, Knockmoylan; Friday, 10th, Paulstown. Meet at 11.30 o'clock.

BOXING.

IRISH COMMAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Irish Command Boxing Championships were brought to a close last night in the Rotunda Rink, in the presence of a splendid attendance, which included Major-General Friend, C.B., and Staff, and a thoroughly representative gathering of the officers of the Dublin garrison. During the morning the several competitions had been advanced to the third round, and the programme set for decision at night was thus the most attractive of the week. Heretofore the championships had been held at the Curragh, but the experiment of bringing them off this year in Dublin was attended by marked success, and as a result, the fund for promoting comforts for the Irish soldiers at front must have benefited to a satisfactory extent. The boxing yesterday maintained a capital standard, but naturally enough the closing stages furnished the best sport of the week. Perhaps the most interesting bout of the night was the middle-weights between Sergeant Leeson and Sergeant M'Quill, as, while the former was the cleverer ring general and the harder hitter, the latter showed smart form by taxing the ex-Army Champion at every stage. Lance-Corporal Stout, the winner of the feather weights, is a very clever two-handed boxer, and his footwork completely nonplussed his opponent, a game, sturdy boxer, but lacking in the finish of the winner. Private Donnelly won the light weights by beating Sergeant Buck in the final, the winner being none other than Tom Donnelly, who a few years ago, presented decidedly useful form as a civilian. His leading and clever defensive work were the features of a good battle with the fusilier. Sergeant Fennelly was a somewhat easy winner of the light heavies, for he was quicker with his blows and placed them to better advantage than did his opponent with his. The special six two-minute round contest between Constable O'Neill, D.M.P., and Private Leeming finished in the second round, O'Neill being entirely too strong for his opponent. At the conclusion the prizes were distributed to the winners by Major-General Friend. Details:—

BANTAM-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Hood (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Lawlor (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Williams (10th Royal Irish Fusiliers).
Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Rifleman Roy (5th Royal Irish Rifles).

Semi-Finals.

Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Caulfield beat Greene.

FEATHER-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Dukes (5th Royal Irish Rifles).
Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Gordon (County of London Yeomanry).
Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) beat Pte. Waddle (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Ward (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.), who retired injured in the second round.
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Final.

Stout beat Hanrahan, the winner having lots the better of the three rounds.

LIGHT-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Corpl. Tiernan (4th Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Pte. Stokes (Lancs. Hussars, Yeomanry).
Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Tyson (County of London Yeomanry).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Drummer Bathe (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Final.

Donnelly beat Burke. Donnelly forced the fighting all through, and was an easy winner.

WELTER-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. O'Dea (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Rifleman Maguire (4th Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Monaghan (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dorgan (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers), disqualified for holding.
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) knocked out Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Coogan beat Conway, who took heavy punishment in the first round before the referee stopped the bout.

MIDDLE-WEIGHTS.
Third Round.

Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Lce.-Corpl. Marshall (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Munckton (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Pte. Filler (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry) beat Drummer Murphy (3rd Royal Irish Regt.).

Semi-finals.

Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.), after an extra round.
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry).

Final.

Leeson beat McQuill in a splendidly-contested bout, Leeson's leading standing him in good stead.

LIGHT-HEAVY-WEIGHTS.
Semi-finals.

Pte. O'Brien (3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers) beat Pte. Noonan (3rd Leinster Regt.).
Sergt. Fennelly (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Sergt. Mahoney (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Fennelly beat O'Brien, in a poor bout.

OFFICERS' CATCH WEIGHTS.
Semi-finals.

Second Lieut. Elvidge (5th Connaught Rangers) beat Second Lieut. Gallwey (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Lieut. Tweedy (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Second Lieut. Minch (3rd Connaught Rangers).

Final.

Lieut. Tweedy beat Second Lieut. Elvidge, the latter being disqualified for using the shoulder.

SPECIAL SIX-ROUND CONTEST.

Constable O'Neill (D.M.P.) v. Pte. Leeming (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

A terrific contest while it lasted. Leeming took two counts of eight and nine respectively in the first round, and was knocked out early in the second.

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

	Pts.		Pts.
Mountjoy School	13	Portora Royal School	0
Curragh Garrison	0	South Irish Horse	0

ASSOCIATION.

IRISH CUP REPLAY.

	Goals.		Goals.
*Bohemians	3	Shelbourne	0

INTERMEDIATE CUP.

	Goals.		Goals.
Frankfort	3	Old Timers (Derry)	2

* Abandoned, with sixteen minutes to play, owing to bad weather.

BANKERS [illegible] WITH NEUTRALS.

The Foreign Trade Department of the Foreign Office forwards the following for publication:—

BANKING TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO SHIPMENTS TO NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

Merchants and others are reminded that where a letter of credit is issued for the financing of merchandise shipped either from the United Kingdom or from overseas to a neutral country in Europe, or where documents relating to the shipment of such goods are handled in any form by banks or other institutions in this country, the banks and institutions are required, before undertaking the business, to insist upon the production of a declaration, signed by the consignee and countersigned by the consignee's banker in the neutral country, that the goods are for consumption only in the country to which they are shipped. The form of declaration may be obtained from any banker in the United Kingdom. The absence of such declarations has caused prejudicial delays.

GOODS FOR DENMARK.

In the case of articles coming within the scope of the agreement of the 19th November, 1915, between His Majesty's Government and the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen and the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, a declaration that the goods in question are duly covered by a guarantee, given either by the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen or by the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, as the case may be, is required in lieu of the usual declaration.

STEAMER ASHORE.

A Lloyd's Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire, telegram states that the Danish steamer Bogatyr, from Seville for Middlesbro', is ashore south of Chapel Point. Fourteen of the crew came ashore in a boat. The captain reports nine unaccounted for.

MARKET REPORTS.

Grain.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Foreign wheat irregular, and from 3d. to 1/- down on the week; English unaltered. Maize 6d. to 1/- dearer. Oats in sellers' favour. Flour at nominally last week's prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba wheat, 77/-; No. 2, 76/-; No. 3, 75/-; hard winter, 74/- to 74/6; English, 60/- to 64/-; maize, 53/- to 55/6; beans, 58/6; flour, 51/6 to 54/6.

CARLISLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Supply continues small, and trade quiet at to-day's quotations, 12/- for three imperial bushels.

Cattle.

DONCASTER CATTLE MARKET, February 26.—Owing to the storm, supplies of cattle and sheep were much below the average, and buyers were few, trade being quiet, especially for milch beasts, which made £24 to £29; bullocks, £17 to £23; heifers, £16 to £20; stirks, £10 to £14 per head. Sheep slow, and only a few ewes offered; whilst young pigs were absent, and strong stores made 33/- to 40/- each.

Provisions.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET, February 26.—Our market was rather better supplied this morning with all classes of seasonable vegetables. Demand very active, especially for cabbages, and extreme prices well maintained. An early clearance of everything effected. Quotations:—York cabbages, 20/- to 30/- to 34/- to 41/-; Savoys, 37/- to 45/- and 53/- to 60/- per load; Swede turnips, 1/1 to 1/6 per cwt.; cauliflowers, best, 4/- to 7/6; seconds, 2/- to 3/6 per basket; parsley, 10d. to 1/- per float; celery, 1/6 to 2/6 per bunch; parsnips, 1/3 per dozen bunches; ditto, per cwt., 3/6 to 4/-; carrots, 9d. to 1/- per dozen bunches; Brussels sprouts, 2/- to 2/6 per float; rhubarb, 1/6 to 3/- per dozen; beetroot, 5d. to 7d. per bunch; white turnips, 6d. to 9d. and 1/- per bunch.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE POTATO MARKET, February 26.—Market well supplied with potatoes. Demand steady for prime qualities, and prices well maintained; secondary and inferior grades continue a drug. Best Up-to-Dates, 3/4 to 3/8; Sherry Blues, 5/- per cwt.; others at prices to clear.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET, February 26.—Only a few packages of white fish up this morning from local trawlers and country smacks; 2 packages of salmon, and 9 chests of lobsters. Salmon, per lb., 1/1 to 1/5; lobsters, per 13, best, 15/- to 20/-; soles, per 9 pairs, large, 20/- to 25/-; medium, 15/- to 17/6; slips, 6/- to 8/-; plaice, per half-box, 15/- to 20/-; cod, 10/- to 12/-; ray, 10/- to 13/-.

BILLINGSGATE FISH MARKET, February 25.—Supply liberal; demand poor. Sales, 2/6; slips, 2/3; red mullet, 2/-; dories, 7d. per lb.; turbot, 1/3; brill, 12/-; halibut, 14/-; lemon soles, 12/6; English plaice, 9/-; Aberdeen, 9/-; Dutch, 7/-; Faroe, 7/-; hake, 9/-; skate, 7/-; live cod, 4/- dead, 13/-; whiting 6/-; gurnet, 6/- per stone; steamer haddocks, 24/- to 42/- per trunk; live eels, 22/-; dead, 20/- per draft; lobsters, 30/- to 80/- per score; crabs, 25/- per hamper.

GRIMSBY FISH MARKET, February 26.—Seven trawlers landed very poor supplies; prices easier on a fair demand. Soles, 2/9 to 3/-; turbot, 1/2 to 1/5; brills, 1/- to 1/2 per lb.; English plaice, 15/- to 16/6; medium, 9/6 to 10/-; lemon soles, 14/6 to 15/-; whitings, 8/3 to 8/6; dead halibut, 15/- to 22/-; live cod, 5/- to 5/6; dead, 3/6 to 5/- per stone.

LONDON CENTRAL MEAT MARKET, February 26.—Beef—Scotch long sides, 5/10 to 6/-; short, 6/- to 6/4; English sides, 5/7 to 5/10; Irish, 5/7 to 5/10; Argentine hindquarters, 5/8. Mutton—Scotch tegs, 7/- to 8/-; wethers, 6/- to 7/-; ewes, 5/6 to 6/-; New Zealand wethers, 5/3 to 5/4; ewes, 5/-; veal, English, 5/- to 7/4; pork, English, 6/8 to 7/10.

LONDON BORO' AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKET, February 26.—Supplies of fair extent occupied moderate attention at generally steady prices. Quotations:—Best Dunbars, 130/-; Kents, 85/- to 95/-; Essex, 80/- to 95/-; Lincolns, 85/- to 105/-; Bedfords, 85/- to 100/-; Scotch Maincrops, 110/- to 115/-; King Edwards, 80/- to 100/-; Up-to-Dates, 80/- to 95/-, and Blacklands, 75/- to 85/- per ton.

CLYDE CRUSHED SUGAR MARKET, February 26.—Official Report—Market closed without change; a fair business done.

Butter.

LITTLE GREEN WHOLESALE BUTTER AND EGG MARKET, February 26.—Butter markets quiet at recent advance. Fair offerings of eggs, and move more freely, the easier currencies giving stimulus to business. Quotations:—Best average farmers' hen eggs, 14/8 to 15/6 per 120; choice, fresh, extra selected, 13/8 to 14/-; ordinary and dealers', 13/- to 13/6; seconds, smalls, etc., 11/- to 12/3; duck eggs, 16/- to 16/3.

CORK BUTTER MARKET, February 26.—Thirds, 90/-; fresh butter, 133/- per cwt.

Miscellaneous.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (First Report), February 26.—First estimated sales, 8,000 bales (including 4,000 late yesterday). The market opened with a quiet demand. Futures opened 1 point under to 2 points over, and now (11 o'clock) are 3 points under to 2½ points over yesterday's close—February, 7.56½d.; March-April, 7.52d.; May-June, 7.49d.; July-August, 7.44½d.; October-November, 7.28½d.; January-February, 7.22½d. Imports, 9,828 bales.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (Second Report), February 26.—Sales, 8,000 bales (including 4,000 sold late yesterday); speculation, 2,500 bales. American market quiet; quotations raised 1 point; mid., 7.73d. Brazils raised 1 point. East Indian, fair business at unchanged rates. Egyptian, good business at steady rates; sales, 1,500 bales. Futures barely steady, 3½ points under to ½ point over yesterday's close—February, 7.56d.; March-April, 7.51d.; May-June, 7.48d.; July-August, 7.44d.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (Third Report), February 26.—Futures closed barely steady, 3½ points under to ½ point over yesterday's close—February, 7.56d.; February-March, 7.51½d.; March-April, 7.51d.; April-May, 7.49d.; May-June, 7.48d.; June-July, 7.46d.; July-August, 7.44d.; August-September, 7.33d.; September-October, 7.30d.; October-November, 7.26½d.; November-December, 7.24d.; December-January, 7.22d.; January-February, 7.20½d. Egyptian futures closed steady, 4 points down to 2 up—February, 11.56d.

Hay and Straw.

LONDON HAY AND STRAW MARKET, February 26.—Moderate arrivals passed off with a good demand at generally late rates. Quotations:—Best meadow hay, 132/6 to 137/6; good, 107/6 to 122/6; best clover, 130/- to 140/-; good, 120/- to 127/6; best clover and ryegrass mixture, 132/6 to 140/-; good, 117/6 to 122/6; best sainfoin, 127/6 to 133/-; best Lucerne, 115/- to 120/-. Straw, 40/- to 50/- per load, delivered.

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UNITED STATES AND GERMANY.

SUBMARINES AND ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT WILSON.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

The Administration now believes that no action will be taken in Congress in opposition to President Wilson's wishes, as the ardour of the majority of Congressmen who favour the warning of Americans not to travel by armed ships has apparently cooled under the lash of the President's Note to Mr. Stone. It is authoritatively stated that reports received at the White House from the Capitol show that the Senate and the House of Representatives stand firmly behind President Wilson in his refusal to permit an abridgment of the rights of Americans by the Germans.

GENESIS OF DR. WILSON'S LETTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The President's letter was given out about midnight. It was in reply to a letter during the afternoon from Senator Stone, in which he said he found it difficult, from a sense of duty and responsibility, to consent to plunge the nation into the vortex of the world war because of the unreasonable obstinacy of any of the Powers, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, of the foolhardiness, amounting to a sort of moral treason against the public, "of our people recklessly risking their lives on armed belligerent ships." Senator Stone assured the President that he wanted to support him and meant to do so to the last limit, but he wanted to talk with him and Mr. Lansing with the utmost frankness and to have the President's counsel and advice regarding the course of events. In the meantime, he continued, I am striving to prevent anything being done by any Senator or member calculated to embarrass your negotiations. You should be left free to act diplomatically as you think best to settle the questions involved.

PRESS OPINION.

The Tribune, the leading organ of the party opposed to the President, says that the Democratic party and the Democratic leaders in Congress are simply playing a part, which means the betrayal of their own country for political or pecuniary gain. No Republican member should mistake the duty now before him. The Democrats in Congress have sold out to the Germans. They have turned over the legislative machinery to the agents of the German Government in this country. Terrified by the fact that the executive branch of our Government has begun to perceive that what German statesmanship asks is not concession, but unconditional compliance, German agents have gone to the Capitol, and are using the cowardice, selfishness, and greed of Democratic politicians to dominate the policy of the nation and to coerce the Executive. The question of war or peace abroad is of comparative insignificance. The real issue is domestic and the real peril is at home. The party which at the moment controls the majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives, for the sake of the political profit it expects to bring home, has deliberately betrayed American interests, and is seeking to surrender American rights to Germany.

THE ATTACK ON A TANK STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Times states, regarding Austria-Hungary's reply to the United States request for an explanation of the attack by an Austrian submarine on the American tank-steamer Petrolite, that the explanation given is unsatisfactory, and that a strong protest will probably follow from the United States Government. The correspondent understands that the Austrian explanation is to the effect that the submarine commander fired on the Petrolite because he believed she was about to attack, and that he thought the vessel's flying the American flag was merely a trick. The Austrian Note is stated to add that the captain of the Petrolite furnished the submarine with supplies gratuitously and of his own free will. This account does not correspond in any particular with the American reports of the incident.

BERLIN'S VERSION OF THE NAVAL VIEW.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant says:—The Berliner Tageblatt publishes a telegram from Lugano, saying that, according to American cables received there, the American Navy [illegible] President Wilson regarding to accept the German standpoint regarding the submarine warfare [illegible] in the probable, though not certain, war between Japan and the United States [illegible] would be the latter's best weapon.

STEADY FALL OF THE MARK.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.70 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 20th, and 88.00 normally.

STOCKHOLM, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 64.75 kroner, against 64.90 kroner on February 21st, and [illegible] normally.

BERNE, SATURDAY.

To-day's official rate for sight exchange on Germany per 100 marks was 94.70, against [illegible] on Tuesday, and 123.45 francs normally. [illegible] on London per £ sterling was 25.13 [illegible] francs on Tuesday, and [illegible] normally.

CHINESE THRONE.

YUAN SHIH-KAI'S ACCESSION POSTPONED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PEKING, [illegible] (DELAYED).

A mandate [illegible] the accession of Yuan Shih-Kai to the throne, owing to [illegible] the Yunnanese. Reports from [illegible] Kweichow show little change in the situation [illegible] the Yunnanese were driven back towards [illegible]. There has been some fighting south of Luchow, in which the Government troops were successful, but the engagements have been of small importance up to now. The Government [illegible] to have defeated the rebels south of [illegible] fifty miles south of [illegible]. The rebels have made raids across the Hunan-Kweichow border, but up to now have not come into contact with the Government forces in this area, while combined Kwangtung and Kwangsi troops, which are [illegible], are unable to advance owing to lack of transports to bring supplies. West of the Yangtse River no serious fighting is expected till the bulk of the northern forces reach the southern Szechuan and Kweichow border. Government circles express confidence in the speedy suppression of the revolt.

INCREASED PRICE OF SUGAR.

Press Bureau announces that the following notice has been received from the Commission on Sugar Supply that, as from Monday next, the prices of sugar put on the market by the Royal Commission on Sugar Supply will be advanced by 3s. per cwt. Retailers are reminded that, by agreement between the Royal Commission and representative bodies, dealers may make, on all transactions, profit limited to the figures allowed them on their purchases.

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

POLITICAL RUMOUR.

There is a rumour, says Reynolds's Newspaper, that, owing to the taking over of the work of the blockade by Lord Robert Cecil, an additional Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs will shortly be appointed. The name of Mr. Neil Primrose, who retired from the Foreign Office on the formation of the Coalition Government, is freely mentioned in this connection. Mr. Primrose, who was some time in the Dardanelles, is now with his regiment in Egypt.

ITALY'S POET PATRIOT.

INJURED IN AEROPLANE ACCIDENT.

In a message despatched from Paris on Saturday, the special correspondent of Lloyd's News says:—A Rome telegram to the Petit Parisien says that Signor Gabrielle d'Annunzio, now a Lieutenant in the Italian Army, has been taken to hospital in Venice, having been injured in the right eye in an aeroplane accident. The physicians hope to save the sight of the eye. Gabrielle d'Annunzio, Italy's poet patriot, inspired by the Mazzini and Garibaldi spirit of devotion to the cause of his fellow-countrymen, has exercised a marvellous influence on the nation. His love of England and hatred of Austria are the typical love and hate of his race, magnified by the fervour of genius. More than any other man in Italy, d'Annunzio is responsible for the part his country is taking in the present conflict, and he was the first to give to the world the news that the Triple Alliance had been broken.

GERMANY'S DESPERATE OFFENSIVE.

The Military Correspondent of the Weekly Dispatch, explaining the meaning of Germany's desperate offensive, says:—It has to be said that it again demonstrates the quick realisation by the Germans of the tangible facts of the military situation. The Germans see that the waiting policy serves no German purpose; rather does it play into the hands of the Allies, who are rapidly co-ordinating their military plans. On the other hand, they know that if an offensive has sufficient weight behind it, and men and material are a matter of indifference, the most strongly defended line must give way. The offensive can always make headway if it is prepared to pay the cost, as we showed the Germans in a rather muddled way at Neuve Chapelle; in a less muddled, but still not brilliant, fashion, at Loos, and in a more scientific form in the Champagne, and as they themselves, best of all, have shown Europe in the wonderfully conceived and wonderfully carried-out Galician drive. The Germans means to win this war. It is now or never for them. They have ceased to believe in the prospect of detaching any of the Allies by means of a separate peace, and are returning to their original design, which was to capture Paris. They have failed to reach Paris by an attack bearing due south; they are trying now to reach Paris by an attack directed from the east.

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS TO BE SUSPENDED.

Writing from the cross benches of the House of Commons, Sir Henry Lucy says in the Observer:—Suspicions that the Prime Minister has decided to intermit for the duration of the war the payment of members will probably be confirmed before the session is many days older. Economy, like charity, should begin at home. The spectacle of the House of Commons preaching—even compelling—denial in others, whilst continuing to receive full payment of salaries conceded just before the outbreak of a war involving fabulous costs, is not conducive either to respect for itself or to furtherance of the national object it advocates. Payment of members is a breach of a time-honoured distinction, for centuries exclusively possessed by the mother of Parliaments. It was introduced little more than four years ago, at a time when the national revenue was advancing by leaps and bounds, and nobody but the Kaiser and his General Staff thought of war. The grant certainly would not have been made under present conditions, and it is these that have to be dealt with.

NOW OR NEVER.

Whatever happens at Verdun, let no one think that the Allies in the West are thrown on the defensive, or doubt their power and intention to retaliate with a vengeance, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin, in the Observer. They keep their own plans; they bide their own hour. We shall not have very long to wait, and the conflict which the enemy seeks to precipitate before the ground is dry for the Russians will dwarf all that has been known in the West. March is almost upon us; with March the spring, in spite of the snow, with spring, the months when the whole sequel of this war must be determined. If we read aright, there is more hope than peril in the enemy's great attempt to breach the eastern rampart of France. The enemy has every reason to seek a solution, at any cost, to mask his real plans, or at least to anticipate the Allies offensive, and force the decisive campaign. By sea and land alike, it is now or never with Germany. There is an end of the waiting of armies, as of the sleep of nature, and the war on all sides is as quiet with energy as the earth with sap.

EXECUTION OF A GERMAN SPY.

OWNED HE DESERVED THE DEATH PENALTY.

There was a grim scene at the execution of a spy on the Vincennes military ground, says the Paris correspondent of Lloyd's News, in a message dated Saturday. The man was sentenced to death by the Paris courtmartial at the beginning of January. He was a tall, handsome young fellow of twenty-five, whose identity is not quite definite. He is supposed to be Italian by birth, and pretended to have been naturalised, successively, in Argentina and Switzerland. Serious were the charges against him, as the details concerning the affair were kept secret, and the case was heard in camera by the courtmartial, and the Kaiser's spy agent was sentenced to death. He appealed twice against the sentence, but his appeals were rejected. The President of the Republic refused to reprieve the young spy. Before proceeding to the execution, the prisoner said: "I recognise my guilt, and I really deserve the punishment I am going to have." On the way to the military ground the prisoner, who was guarded by gendarmes, told them:—"If I was to be let free I can assure you I would not do again what I have done. I was a fool." The prisoner, deadly pale, refused to have his hands tied and his eyes covered with a handkerchief, as is generally done. With remarkable care, he took off his large, soft hat and threw it on the ground, and turned towards the twelve soldiers who were going to shoot him. An officer read out the sentence, trumpets sounded, and the non-commissioned officer in command of the company commanded "Fire" with his sword. A sharp volley rang out, and the spy fell dead with several bullets through his heart. The troops marched past the dead body, which was afterwards taken to the Vincennes Cemetery.

A GOOD STORY.

A good story, illustrative of the muddle in which the Government arrangements have now left the question of aircraft defence, is being related by Mr. Arthur Lynch, M.P., says one of the special political correspondents of the Weekly Dispatch. It concerns a sentry on the East coast, who was asked if he understood his duties in the event of the approach of hostile aircraft. "Certainly," he replied; "it is like this: If I see a German military aeroplane coming I have to call on the Army to deal with it. If it is a naval aeroplane I call on the Navy. If it is a Zeppelin, I'm done."

JACK JOHNSON OFF TO BUENOS AYRES.

Jack Johnson, the negro boxer, has been directed to leave England. When asked on Saturday night by the Northampton correspondent of the Weekly Dispatch why he was taking his departure, he fired back straight from the shoulder, as it were, "To fight." "Whom?" queried the correspondent. "Oh, I don't quite know," he responded. "I think Sam Langford or McVea. It must be one of those two. You see, Kleigin, who arranged my fight with Willard, has offered me, on behalf of a syndicate, £10,000 as my end of the purse, including the picture rights, for a fight in South America, and I have accepted. I had to come away from London to-day in a hurry, so I do not know my opponent. I shall know to-morrow, and I meet Kleigin to settle the details." Jack Johnson's ultimate destination is Buenos Ayres.

LATEST NEWS.

ENTENTE POWERS AND AMERICAN NOTE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

Mr. Lansing announces that one of the Entente Powers has answered his suggestion regarding disarmament of merchant ships, but does not state which Power, nor the nature of the reply.

The Associated Press says it learns that Italy has sent a reply to Mr. Lansing's suggestion, in which she merely points out that Italian liners, when clearing from American ports, give pledges not to use their armament except for defence.

THE GERMAN RIOTS.

Telegraphing from Paris on Saturday, the Daily Chronicle correspondent in Paris says—According to a message from Amsterdam, fresh riots took place in Berlin recently. Mounted police charged and many people were injured.

According to the Vorwaerts, violent demonstrations have been taking place at Halle when there were no potatoes for sale last week. Stormy scenes took place at the last sitting of the Prussian Land Tag, according to the Lokalanzeiger. Answering Socialist attacks, Herr Osten, a Conservative member, read a circular which is being secretly distributed in Germany. It says:—

"While on a single word from the military authorities fathers are being sent to slaughter, these very same authorities are incapable of making the landowners take their pigs to the slaughterhouse. Is it, then, that the husbands and sons of our German women are not of the same value as pigs?"

These words caused commotion, while Herr Liebknecht shouted, "Quite so."

TURKISH REIGN OF TERROR.

A Weekly Dispatch cable from Athens says: It is reported that Ahmed Riza, President of the Chamber, and Prince Izzed Din, with numerous others, have been arrested at Constantinople for the supposed part taken by them in the recent disturbances that followed on the fall of Erzerum.

KING OF SPAIN'S HEALTH.

Reynolds's Newspaper says:—Once again the health of the King of Spain is causing some anxiety. Although to outward appearances perfectly well, he is a great sufferer from his throat, and is about to undergo several days' treatment at the hands of the famous Dr. Moore, who resides at St. Sebastian.

NEW GERMAN POISON GAS FACTORY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to the Echo Belge, the Germans have collected a considerable number of troops in Flanders, and artillery reinforcements have been continually arriving since December. Not less than eighteen attacks were made recently, the paper says, against a small front at Steenstraete, on the Commines Canal, south of Hill 160. Only two attacks had some success, but the German losses must have been terrible. Their killed and wounded are estimated here to number 17,000. The enemy has erected at Schoonaerde a new poison gas factory.

PHILANTHROPIST'S LARGE ESTATE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ADELAIDE, SATURDAY.

The estate of the late Mr. Robert Barr Smith, the well known philanthropist, who died on November 22nd last, is valued at £1,800,000.

DUTCH NEWSPAPERS INTERDICTED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

According to a telegram from Vienna, copies of the Telegraaf, the Dutch pro-Ally newspaper, are not allowed to enter Austria by post.

LABOUR BODIES AND THE WAGES QUESTION.

The Prime Minister has consented to receive a deputation at the House of Commons from various Labour bodies on Tuesday, to press for modification of the Government decision to limit increases of wages, except where the local wages circumstances require adjustment. The deputation will include representatives from the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress, the National Executive of the Labour Party, the National Advisory Committee on War Output, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. The Labour Party announces the appointment of a sub-committee to consider labour questions affecting labour likely to arise after the war on the demobilisation of the troops. The Committee are approaching other union bodies with a view to joint action, and an early preliminary announcement regarding plans and suggestions for dealing with the matter of soldiers being transferred to munition work are required to sign an undertaking to return to military service as soon as munition employment ceases, the wages to be the district rate, or Army pay and an allowance, whichever is granted.

HIGHER WAGES FOR BRISTOL TRANSPORT WORKERS.

It was announced on Saturday that Bristol transport shore workers have received advances in wages which amount to nearly £100,000 per annum. The concession benefits about 10,000 men, who in most cases have received increases of 3s. to 4s. a week for day work and a penny an hour for night work.

LADY SPAIGHT'S WILL.

Dame Elizabeth Spaight, widow of Sir James Spaight, of Derry Castle, Tipperary, whose will has just been proved, left £13,501.

FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN'S STORY.

Here is a little story that will interest Irish readers, thinks the writer of Secret History in Reynolds's Newspaper:—A Connemara lady, named Bridget Joyce, from the Joyce country, was sobbing out to Father Bernard Vaughan the sad news of how she had lost her husband and her son on the high seas. "Ah, Father," she said, "my heart is broken, for without them all is dark and sad and silent." Father Bernard took his dear friend by the hand and said: "Bridget, my child, God has rung up your dear ones before you, that you may have the joy of meeting them on the doorstep of our Celtic home, Heaven. They were brave to do, as you are brave to bear. So you shall meet in the home of the brave, where never again you will part." "Ah, Father, dear," she exclaimed, "it is thrue for you, and your words to me are as honey to the bees in summer. In future, please God, my troubles shall sit upon my heart as lightly as the thistledown on a briar bush."

WESTERN FIELD OF WAR.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

exhaustible, and reinforcements continue to pour into the threatened sector.

OBJECT OF THE ATTACK ON TAHURE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)

PARIS, SATURDAY.

The Petit Parisien says—The attack which the Germans began on February 12th in the Tahure region was of an isolated character, and was effected by the enemy in order to mask the great offensive which they were preparing against Verdun, and in order to compel the French to concentrate their effectives at the point where they were attacking. The assault clearly had in view, the paper continues, the conquest of two salients of our line. Before one of them was the 185th German Infantry Regiment, before the other the 31st Regiment. A formidable supply of artillery had been assembled by the enemy on this narrow front, as well as numerous trench mortars, and thirty batteries of numerous calibre. These opened a violent fire, increasing in intensity, on our trenches and their accessory defences. Our gunners replied and bombarded without cessation the German trenches, whose occupants appeared to be very disturbed by the accuracy of our fire. The Germans, after using explosive shells, employed asphyxiating gasses, but the wind, evidently intending to do them ill, turned against them. Gusts of fire also dispersed the gas, and frequently threw it back on their own trenches. Greatly upset by this unexpected contretemps, the Germans, who had orders at all costs to divert our attention by a prolonged attack, took the offensive. About five o'clock two mines were exploded with a great noise, hurling up great masses of earth on all sides, and then jets of flaming liquid were turned in the direction of our infantry some minutes before the attack. These jets were directed by special pioneers with the aid of machines called flammen werfer. The attack then began. The German infantry tried to leave their trenches, but without obtaining any serious success. Prisoners said that the attack had been preceded by full-dress rehearsals, but the result of the attack was at no spot in proportion to the care and efforts bestowed on it.

EFFECT IN THE UNITED STATES.

FALL IN GERMAN EXCHANGE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)

NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The great German offensive against Verdun has had the most significant counter-part in the further decline of the German exchange in New York. In face of seemingly adverse news from Paris, the French exchange rose to the highest point touched for many days, French cheques being quoted at 5.87 sterling, and the Anglo-French Bonds remained firm, while the rates for German exchange went down to 13 cents for 4 marks, only 1 cent above the lowest record. Wall street enthusiastically endorses the stand taken by the President against Congress, and expresses the utmost confidence in the ability of the French to withstand the German onslaught.

THE KAISER AT WILHELMSHAVEN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

COPENHAGEN, SATURDAY.

According to the Wilhelmshavener Zeitung, the Kaiser visited Wilhelmshaven last Wednesday morning. After inspecting the various warships and conferring with the Chief of the North Sea Staff he left the same evening.

GERMAN OFFICER'S VIEWS.

BREACH WITH AMERICA ADVANTAGEOUS.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)

AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

The Frankfurter Zeitung publishes the views of a high German naval officer on submarine warfare, and the questions connected therewith. The officer said that the view which is shared by the majority of German naval officers is that a complete breach between Germany and America would be conducive to a far earlier victorious termination of the war, but only on condition that Germany derived all the results logically arising out of such a breach. As soon as we need have no more consideration for the United States, we can wage naval war with the same ruthlessness as the British have hitherto done, and, like the latter, set up our own sea laws. We could immediately declare all Great Britain and Ireland blockaded, and announce that every ship, of whatever flag, that tried to enter a British harbour would, on entering the war zone, be regarded as a blockade runner and be destroyed without warning, so as to eliminate the hitherto existing tricks, especially as past experience shows that every merchant vessel is armed.

In reply to the contention of statesmen that the sinking of neutral merchant ships without warning would provoke neutral indignation, the officer said—The indignation of neutrals in a matter that touches our existence can influence us as little as it influences at present the British, who, unhindered, constantly trample on the rights of neutrals. It would, moreover, be a far greater act of barbarity to sacrifice hundreds of thousands of your own country's children by an unduly protracted war. The officer thinks his policy would lead to the starvation of Great Britain, and thus to her submission, and automatically to the submission of Russia and France. America would then be isolated and would have to submit, because Germany, having obtained from her other beaten opponents the transfer to Germany of all their great battleships and submarines, would be seven times stronger on sea than America, which, when beaten, would have to surrender all the German merchantmen which she has seized and also pay all their costs of the Central Powers and their allies.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
ROYAL FLYING CORPS.

Flying Officer—Second Lieutenant Denis O. Mulholland, the Connaught Rangers, Special Reserve, and seconded.

INFANTRY.

Royal Munster Fusiliers—Second Lieutenants to be Lieutenants—T. H. Poingdestre, T. Price.

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Royal Irish Rifles—Second Lieutenant (on probation) J. M. Higgins resigns his commission on account of ill-health.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.
INFANTRY.
SERVICE BATTALIONS.

Royal Irish Regiment—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—M. J. Dalton, F. J. G. Ellison, M. L. Roche, E. F. P. Tydd, R. U. B. White, H. Trenaman, W. I. Hannon.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—S. McConnell, R. G. Neill, R. W. Torr.

Royal Irish Rifles—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—A. M. Dunn, A. W. Holinshead.

Royal Irish Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—R. V. Jackson, J. J. Kennedy, H. S. Lee.

Connaught Rangers—A. Ribbons to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)—N. D. Prendergast to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Munster Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. Molony, D. Hickey, R. O'Connell, H. Waring.

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—G. T. Browne, N. B. Harris, P. J. Walsh, A. J. Carrigg, J. H. E. Harris, R. L. Higgins, H. C. Poulter. Temporary Second Lieutenant R. F. Hilliard relinquishes his commission.

SECOND RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—A. R. Booth to be temporary Second Lieutenant (on probation).

Royal Dublin Fusiliers—Temporary Second Lieutenant G. A. Nolan to be temporary Second Lieutenant. To be temporary Second Lieutenants (on probation)—W. R. Brereton-Barry, W. M. Calwell, A. J. J. Clancy, H. H. Cross, J. Curry, A. W. Heuchy, J. Keenan, C. M. Molony, C. P. Close.

LOCAL RESERVE.

Royal Irish Rifles—R. St. J. Main to be temporary Quartermaster, with the honorary rank of Lieutenant.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 25, 1916.
REGULAR FORCES.

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenant:—

INFANTRY.

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers—Private G. H. Gibson.

GEORGE YOUNGER AND SON.

The directors of George Younger and Son have declared dividends of 10 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares and 5s. per share on the Deferred Shares. This is the same as last year.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following casualty in the Canadian Contingent with the Expeditionary Force is reported:

WOUNDED.

BOYCE, Lieut. C. D., 19th Canadian Infantry Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported from General Headquarters, under date 20th February, 1916:—

WOUNDED.

BUCHANAN, Second Lieut. A. G. W. A., Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 12th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
BUCKMASTER, Lieut. H. H., West Yorks. Regt.
BURNAND, Second Lieut. G. M., Lancs. Fusiliers, 9th Batt., attached 10th Batt.
COLLINS, Second Lieut. C. H., Royal Warwicks. Regt., 13th Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.
HUGALL, Second Lieut. J. G., Durham L.I., 17th Batt., attached 2nd Batt.
NORMAN, Lieut. C. M., Rifle Brigade, 10th Batt.
PATTEN, Second Lieut. A. G. B., Suffolk Regt., attached 4th Batt. (T.F.)
PATTINSON, Second Lieut. G. H., Royal Fusiliers, 9th Batt.
STEWART, Second Lieut. E. W., Durham L.I., 14th Batt.

MISSING.

GARLICK, Second Lieut. F. A., Royal Flying Corps.
KNOX, Capt. W., Cameron Highlanders, 3rd Batt., and Royal Flying Corps.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported under various dates:—

WOUNDED.

CORDEN, Second Lieut. G. S., London Regt. (T.F.), 3rd Batt., Royal Fusiliers, attached 22nd Batt. The Queen's.
DAVIS, Second Lieut. W., Royal Engineers.
TRENDELL, Second Lieut. C. H., West Yorks. Regt., 11th Batt.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MESOPOTAMIA.

The following casualty amongst non-commissioned officers of the Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 2nd BATTALION.
Lyons, 9030, Corporal J.

The following casualty in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force is reported:—

DIED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 1st BATT.
Bane, 3022, Private J.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the Expeditionary Force are reported from the Base, under date 17th February, 1916:—

KILLED.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Manship, 12136, Acting Corporal G.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Magee, 19302, Private H.
ROYAL IRISH RIFLES, 12th BATT. (CENTRAL ANTRIM).
Sempey, 19751, Corporal J.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Burke, 3748, Pte. T.; Hill, 10272, Pte. E.; Hudson, 4814, Pte. E.; Judge, 4678, Pte. T.; Nolan, 56, Corpl. P.; Sexton, 4356, Pte. P.; Ward, 3607, Pte. S.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Urwin, 19375, Lance-Corporal W.
CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 6th BATT.
Heaney, 3780, Private J.

Previously reported wounded, now reported died of wounds:—

IRISH GUARDS, 1st BATT.
French, 8741, Private W.

WOUNDED.

ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Coll, 5660, Private J.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 2nd BATT.
Deery, 4298, Pte. W.; McCoy, 11007, Pte. J.; McGoldrick, 6985, Pte. J.; Mercer, 8613, Pte. S.; O'Kane, 3273, Pte. C.; White, 7605, Lce.-Corpl. W.
ROYAL INNISKILLING FUSILIERS, 9th BATT. (CO. TYRONE).
Owens, 16311, Pte. T. R.
LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Cassidy, 2996, Pte. J.; Coleman, 10298, Pte. M.; Conroy, 7394, Pte. T.; Corrigan, 3719, Pte. J.; Curran, 3351, Pte. P.; Davies, 4728, Pte. B.; Davis, 6545, Pte. J.; Donovan, 4455, Pte. A.; Duffy, 4930, Pte. J.; Duffy, 3357, Pte. M.; Dugan, 10645, Pte. W.; Kirwan, 3595, Lce.-Corpl. J.; Lawless, 5009, Pte. B.; McDonnell, 4851, Pte. T.; Moore, 9131, Pte. J.; Naylor, 9998, Pte. H.; Steepe, 10204, Pte. D.; Thompson, 6270, Sgt. R.; Whelan, 1558, Pte. J.
ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 8th BATT.
Halligan, 25070, Pte. H.; Tait, 14613, Sgt. T.

WOUNDED, SHOCK-SHELL.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 2nd BATT.
Gorry, 4279, Private P.

The following casualties amongst warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men are reported from Mesopotamia under various dates:—

DIED OF WOUNDS.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 1st BATT.
Costello, 10211, Pte. E.; Hannon, 9445, Acting Lce.-Sgt. P.; Hillary, 8790, Pte. J.; Roberts, 4718, Pte. T. W.; Ward, 3108, Pte. B.

The following casualty is reported from the Balkan Expeditionary Force:—

KILLED.

CONNAUGHT RANGERS, 5th BATT.
Kenravy, 3/5868, Private M.

The following casualty is reported from overseas:—

DIED.

LEINSTER REGIMENT, 6th BATT.
Lally, 3/3437, Private T.

MISSING AIRMAN.

DEATH BY DROWNING.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Bernard Lee was reported missing since February 15, and his relatives have now received from the Admiralty official intimation of his death by drowning.

Flight Sub-Lieutenant Lee left to carry out patrol duty. Search for him has been carried out by H.M. ships, but without result. Lieutenant Lee was the younger son of Mr. C. Richards Lee, of the Admiralty, and the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. R. Goulburn Lovell, of Eastbourne. His brother is serving in France in the Seaforth Highlanders. He would have been 21 years old next May. He had served in East Africa, where he went up a river in a boat conveying aeroplanes to be used in connection with the destruction of the German steamer Koenigsberg.

SECLUSION FOR 160,000 SLACKERS.

At a meeting of the Executive of the Scottish mine workers in Glasgow on Saturday it was stated that since the outbreak of war 160,000 men throughout Great Britain had left other occupations for the mines because underground workers were barred from military service.

The Chairman (Mr. Robertson) said that should the war last a considerable time these newcomers would become miners, and trouble would arise when the old miners returned from military service. Military service miners felt very strongly on the subject, because they had responded loyally to the call for soldiers. It was doubtful whether military tribunals had any power to deal with men who had entered mines during the war.

It was agreed that the matter should be brought before the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, and that representatives of the men should meet the Scottish mine-owners to ensure the re-employment of miners who have joined the Army, after the war terminated.

GREAT SNOWSTORM IN ENGLAND.

The heavy snowstorm of the last three days still continues in South Shropshire, and the Radnorshire train service is much disorganised. Road traffic is impeded by heavy drifts.

The snowstorm was the cause of a death at Wirksworth Midland Railway Station on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Thomas Midgley, of Duffield, an engineer, came by a Derby train to see his son, and while alighting he slipped on the icy platform, struck a barrow, and died instantly. He was sixty years of age.

SNOW AFFECTS COAL SUPPLY.

The severe snowstorm in Birmingham and district, which was renewed on Saturday, is having a serious affect on the coal supply. For some days operations at the Staffordshire and Warwickshire pits have been virtually suspended. Birmingham merchants have had no deliveries since Wednesday, and on Saturday their stocks were nearly exhausted. Householders who rushed on the market have been unable to obtain supplies, as, owing to the state of the roads, delivery has been possible within only a short radius. The output at many works has been curtailed.

HARSH WEATHER IN DUBLIN.

Winter was keenly felt on Saturday in Dublin. The early hours of the morning were cold but not damp. As the day became older, rain fell intermittently, and great cold added to the unpleasantness of the time. In the afternoon snow began to fall. It did not, however, make any headway, and what fell soon passed into the slush of the streets. The weather was not any better in the evening. It grew, perhaps, worse after dark, and those people who were about the town had disagreeable walking. At eleven o'clock snow was falling appreciably, and the ground had a white covering as theatre-goers and others were passing homeward.

BELGIAN INDUSTRIES.

EXPOSURE OF GERMAN METHODS BY SIR E. GREY.

ALLIES' POLICY DEFENDED.

A memorandum dealing with the industrial question in Belgium has been prepared, and in forwarding it to M. Hymans, the Belgian Minister in London, Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, wrote as follows (February 19, 1916):—

My Dear Minister,—During the last months you have represented to me frequently the condition of industries in the part of Belgium occupied by the enemy, and the need for imports of raw material if those industries are to be saved from ruin and universal unemployment and distress prevented. I now enclose a memorandum which shows the true state of the case.

I should add that the question here dealt with is entirely distinct from the importation of foodstuffs into Belgium by the Relief Commission, as to which the attitude of His Majesty's Government remains that stated recently in Parliament, that His Majesty's Government will facilitate the work of the Commission as long and in so far as that work is carried on under adequate neutral supervision completely independent of German control and in compliance with the conditions laid down from time to time by His Majesty's Government. (Signed) E. Grey.

Sir Edward Grey's memorandum is as follows:—

It is understood that there is a strong feeling among Belgians that the industrial distress in Belgium is to be attributed solely to the action of the Allied Governments in preventing imports, and it is often contended that this action does not appreciably harm Germany, while it involved the most painful loss to the people of our Ally. As is already known, His Majesty's Government have not been able to agree that Belgian industry can be maintained in present circumstances without very considerable benefit to the enemy, involving a postponement of the restoration of Belgian independence. But at the same time His Majesty's Government have been fully impressed with the necessity of assisting the Belgian population, and it is for this reason that they have supported the Commission for Relief in Belgium, and have permitted export trade from Belgium under certain conditions. It was also for this reason that they decided some months ago to signify their willingness to consider proposals for the importation of raw materials into Belgium through the agency, and under the guarantee, of the Relief Commission. The undertakings demanded from the Germans in connection with this scheme were simple. They were to permit the free importation of raw materials and the export of manufactured goods made from such materials, through the Relief Commission; they were to respect and free from all embargo or requisition any stocks of similar raw materials or manufactured goods still remaining in the country; and they were in general to treat any factory thus supplied by the Commission as enjoying the same privileges and immunities as one of the Commission's warehouses. It was believed that importations under such a system would suffice to reduce unemployment and to relieve the population from much at least of the distress inseparable from their unfortunate position.

POLICY OF THE GERMANS.

This scheme was submitted to the German authorities at Brussels by the Commission four months ago. Inquiries have since been made as to the progress of the negotiations, but without result. Up to the present no reply of any kind has been received from the Germans.

There was never any doubt of what the policy of the Germans really was in this matter, but it has now become clear. While they proclaim to the people of Belgium on every occasion that the ruin of Belgian industry is solely due to the policy of the Allies, while they make capital out of their readiness to give to Belgian manufacturers, guarantees that they will not requisition raw materials imported for their factories abroad, they are determined to enter into no arrangement for the relief of Belgian industry until they have taken from the country the last ounce of native stocks of raw material or manufactured goods which can be of any use to them, and until they have been able to create such widespread destitution as to force the requisite amount of Belgian labour to emigrate to Germany, or to take employment in works in Belgium controlled by them for their own purposes. When these objects have been gained, so far as the patriotism and finances of the Belgian manufacturers and workmen will ever permit such objects to be gained, they will, doubtless, express their readiness to make an arrangement whereby the country, once fully drained of all its resources, may be restocked. Before that time arrived this German policy should, therefore, be fully exposed.

Only a few figures need be given in proof of facts so notorious. In one month, October 26-November 26, by one route only there were exported from Belgium to Germany 74,000 tons of coal, 6,100 tons of phosphates, 100 tons of lead, 1,350 tons of ore, 340 tons of pitprops, 1,200 tons of guano, and 1,600 tons of briquettes. In the month immediately preceding this period there were large exportations of the same articles by the same route, besides such items as 840 tons of pyrites, 1,600 casks of tanning extract, 350 tons of extract of lead, and quantities of iron, lead, rubber, and copal. It is well known that at least half the product of the Belgian textile mills has been requisitioned.

Recently the commander-in-chief of the Fourth Army in Belgium issued an order directing, under heavy penalties, that all stocks of cotton should be declared, and prohibiting the working of cottons in future. Indeed, the general policy of the Germans cannot be better illustrated than by the guarantees recently given by them to a prominent Belgian business man, undertaking to respect certain metals, such as steel and copper, essential to the maintenance of one of the chief Belgian industries, upon production of proof that these articles had been imported. The inference is obvious—that any Belgian stocks of such articles would be seized. All the most essential materials in Belgium, such as oil and metals, are controlled by German organisations in the German interest, and cannot be obtained unless the applicant conforms himself to the wishes of the enemy.

This, then, is the position:—His Majesty's Government have made an attempt to provide relief for Belgian industries by importation of raw materials from abroad, in spite of their belief that such importations, even under the safeguards proposed, would result in substantial benefit to the enemy. The German authorities must be presumed from their persistent silence to have refused their consent to the scheme put forward by the relief commission. Their fixed policy of impoverishing the country and driving the workmen into their employment now stands revealed, and His Majesty's Government must disclaim all responsibility towards the Belgian people for evils which the enemy has both caused and refused to remove.

LLOYD'S MAIL NEWS.

ADEN, Friday.—The Nellore, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
ADEN, Wednesday.—The Australien, from Calcutta, arrived.
ADEN, Friday.—The Kashmir, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
BARBADOS, Friday.—The Denis, from Manaos, arrived.
BUENOS AYRES, Friday.—The Amazon, for the United Kingdom, left.
COLOMBO, Friday.—The Sardinia, for London, left.
DEAL, Thursday.—The Catalina, from the United Kingdom for the West Indies, passed.
HONG KONG, Thursday.—The Namur, from Bombay, left.
LIVERPOOL, Friday.—The Demerara, from Buenos Ayres, arrived.
MADEIRA, Thursday.—The Araila, for London, left.
MARSEILLES, Wednesday.—The Katori Maru, for London, left.
MELBOURNE, Friday.—The Mongolia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
PORT NATAL, Thursday.—The Sawa Maru, from Yokohama for London, arrived.
PORT SAID, Monday.—The Tenasserim, for Liverpool, left.
PORT SAID, Friday.—The Caledonia, from London for Sydney, arrived.
RIO JANEIRO, Thursday.—The Darro, from the United Kingdom for Buenos Ayres, arrived.
SUEZ CANAL, Thursday.—The Chapra arrived.
TRINIDAD, Wednesday.—The Quillota, for the West Indies and Colon, left.
VICTORIA, Wednesday.—The Awa Maru, from Hong Kong, arrived, and left for Seattle.

NEWSPAPER PRESS FUND.

Lord Burnham, presiding on Saturday afternoon at the annual meeting of the Newspaper Press Fund, said that the members of the Press could not have acquitted themselves more worthily than they had during the war. The number of Pressmen who had gone to the front or were engaged in war work compared very favourably with other professions. They had every reason to feel proud and satisfied with the part they were playing wherever their services were required. He regarded the Presidency of the Fund as the blue riband of the profession.

THE FALL OF ERZERUM

EFFECT ON THE KURDS.

A despatch from a Petrograd correspondent contains information regarding the Kurds which makes it clear that the Russian capture of the famous fortress of Erzerum will have the effect of definitely aligning these warlike tribes against the Turks.

A correspondent of the Petrograd paper Dyen states that as a result of Russian successes in the Transcaucasian theatre of war some of the Kurd tribes passed to the Russian side early in January. "The Kurd cannot be bought with gold or a caress," says the correspondent. "I remember a recent incident in a Transcaucasian town. A number of Kurds were brought in as prisoners. These people consider themselves descendants of Solomon. They walked along carrying their iron fetters in their hands, and looked like so many owls blinking in the sun's rays. A woman offered one of them a jug of milk; he took the pitcher silently and poured the milk on the ground with a proud gesture.

"Success is the only argument which will bring the warlike and absolutely fearless Kurdish tribes to our side. In many of our detachments now Kurds may be seen in the front ranks. Their sheepskin headdresses wave in front of the Russian detachments like yellow oriflammes. Earlier in the war a celebrated chief of an important Kurdish tribe, Shimko, received the decoration of St. Anne from the Russians, in addition to other honours, and yet he attacked our troops very shortly afterwards."

SWEDISH MAIL INCIDENT.

The Foreign Office declares that the statement published that the mails on the Swedish steamer Stockholm were landed at Greenock on Friday is not the case. The letter mails remain on the Stockholm. The parcel mails have been removed for examination, according to the usual procedure.

HUNTING.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.

THE WARD UNION.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
March.		
Wednesday, 1	8-Mile Stone	1.30
Saturday, 4	Dunboyne	1.30

THE KILDARE.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
February		
Tuesday, 29	Brannoxtown	11. 0
March.		
Thursday, 2	Tinoran Cross-roads	11.30
Saturday, 4	Straffan Bridge	11. 0

THE MEATH.

Date.	Meet.	Hour.
February		
Tuesday, 29	Larscor	11. 0
March.		
Friday, 3	Kilmoon	11. 0

HUNTING FIXTURES.

KILKENNY FOXHOUNDS.

February—Monday, 28th, Burnchurch. March—Wednesday, 1st, Windgap; Friday, 3rd, Kilmanagh; Tuesday, 7th, Foyle Bridge; Thursday, 9th, Knockmovlan; Friday, 10th, Paulstown. Meet at 11.30 o'clock.

BOXING.

IRISH COMMAND CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Irish Command Boxing Championships were brought to a close last night in the Rotunda Rink, in the presence of a splendid attendance, which included Major-General Friend, C.B., and Staff, and a thoroughly representative gathering of the officers of the Dublin garrison. During the morning the several competitions had been advanced to the third round, and the programme set for decision at night was thus the most attractive of the week. Heretofore the championships had been held at the Curragh, but the experiment of bringing them off this year in Dublin was attended by marked success, and, as a result, the fund for promoting comforts for the Irish soldiers at front must have benefited to a satisfactory extent. The boxing yesterday maintained a capital standard, but naturally enough the closing stages furnished the best sport of the week. Perhaps the most interesting bout of the night was the middle-weights between Sergeant Leeson and Sergeant M'Quill, as, while the former was the cleverer ring general and the harder hitter, the latter showed smart form by taxing the ex-Army Champion at every stage. Lance-Corporal Stout, the winner of the feather weights, is a very clever two-handed boxer, and his footwork completely nonplussed his opponent, a game, sturdy boxer, but lacking in the finish of the winner. Private Donnelly won the light weights by beating Sergeant Buck in the final, the winner being none other than Tom Donnelly, who a few years ago, presented decidedly useful form as a civilian. His leading and clever defensive work were the features of a good battle with the fusilier. Sergeant Fennelly was a somewhat easy winner of the light heavies, for he was quicker with his blows and placed them to better advantage than did his opponent with his. The special six two-minute round contest between Constable O'Neill, D.M.P., and Private Leeming finished in the second round, O'Neill being entirely too strong for his opponent. At the conclusion the prizes were distributed to the winners by Major-General Friend. Details:—

BANTAM-WEIGHTS.

Third Round.

Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Hood (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Lawlor (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Williams (10th Royal Irish Fusiliers).
Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Rifleman Roy (5th Royal Irish Rifles).

Semi-Finals.

Drummer Caulfield (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coughlin (6th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Pte. Greene (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Pte. Gorman (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Caulfield beat Greene.

FEATHER-WEIGHTS.

Third Round.

Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Rifleman Dukes (5th Royal Irish Rifles).
Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Gordon (County of London Yeomanry).
Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) beat Pte. Waddie (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Ward (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Hanrahan (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Corpl. Harris (3rd Leinster Regt.), who retired injured in the second round.
Lce.-Corpl. Stout (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. McErlean (4th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Final.

Stout beat Hanrahan, the winner having lots the better of the three rounds.

LIGHT-WEIGHTS.

Third Round.

Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.) beat Corpl. Tiernan (4th Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Pte. Stokes (Lancs. Hussars, Yeomanry).
Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Tyson (County of London Yeomanry).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Drummer Bathe (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Pte. Donnelly (3rd Co., A.S.C.) beat Shoeing-Smith Hassett (8th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Burke (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Driscoll (3rd Leinster Regt.).

Final.

Donnelly beat Burke. Donnelly forced the fighting all through, and was an easy winner.

WELTER-WEIGHTS.

Third Round.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. O'Dea (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Rifleman Maguire (4th Royal Irish Rifles).
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Pte. Monaghan (3rd Connaught Rangers).
Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dorgan (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Semi-Finals.

Sergt. Coogan (3rd Leinster Regt.) beat Pte. Coote (3rd Connaught Rangers), disqualified for holding.
Pte. Conway (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) knocked out Sergt. Reid (4th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Coogan beat Conway, who took heavy punishment in the first round before the referee stopped the bout.

MIDDLE-WEIGHTS.

Third Round.

Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Lce.-Corpl. Marshall (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Munckton (9th Reserve Cavalry Regt.).
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Pte. Filler (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).
Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry) beat Drummer Murphy (3rd Royal Irish Regt.).

Semi-finals.

Sergt. McQuill (5th Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Pte. Dwyer (3rd Royal Irish Regt.), after an extra round.
Sergt. Leeson (3rd Connaught Rangers) beat Sergt. Hook (County of London Yeomanry).

Final.

Leeson beat McQuill in a splendidly-contested bout, Leeson's leading standing him in good stead.

LIGHT-HEAVY-WEIGHTS.

Semi-finals.

Pte. O'Brien (3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers) beat Pte. Noonan (3rd Leinster Regt.).
Sergt. Fennelly (3rd Royal Irish Regt.) beat Sergt. Mahoney (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

Final.

Fennelly beat O'Brien, in a poor bout.

OFFICERS' CATCH WEIGHTS.

Semi-finals.

Second Lieut. Elvidge (5th Connaught Rangers) beat Second Lieut. Gallwey (3rd Royal Irish Rifles).
Lieut. Tweedy (3rd Royal Dublin Fusiliers) beat Second Lieut. Minch (3rd Connaught Rangers).

Final.

Lieut. Tweedy beat Second Lieut. Elvidge, the latter being disqualified for using the shoulder.

SPECIAL SIX-ROUND CONTEST.

Constable O'Neill (D.M.P.) v. Pte. Leeming (3rd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

A terrific contest while it lasted. Leeming took two counts of eight and nine respectively in the first round, and was knocked out early in the second.

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

	Pts.		Pts.
Mountjoy School	13	Portora Royal School	0
Curragh Garrison	0	South Irish Horse	0

ASSOCIATION.

IRISH CUP REPLAY.

	Goals.		Goals.
*Bohemians	3	Shelbourne	0

INTERMEDIATE CUP.

Frankfort	3	Old Times (Derry)*	2

* Abandoned, with sixteen minutes to play, owing to bad weather.

BANKERS AND TRADE WITH NEUTRALS.

The Foreign Trade Department of the Foreign Office forwards the following for publication:—

BANKING TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO SHIPMENTS TO NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

Merchants and others are reminded that where a letter of credit is issued for the financing of merchandise shipped either from the United Kingdom or from overseas to a neutral country in Europe, or where documents relating to the shipment of such goods are handled in any form by banks or other institutions in this country, the banks and institutions are required, before undertaking the business, to insist upon the production of a declaration, signed by the consignee and countersigned by the consignee's banker in the neutral country, that the goods are for consumption only in the country to which they are shipped. The form of declaration may be obtained from any banker in the United Kingdom. The absence of such declarations has caused prejudicial delays.

GOODS FOR DENMARK.

In the case of articles coming within the scope of the agreement of the 19th November, 1915, between His Majesty's Government and the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen and the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, a declaration that the goods in question are duly covered by a guarantee, given either by the Merchants' Guild of Copenhagen or by the Danish Chamber of Manufacturers, as the case may be, is required in lieu of the usual declaration.

STEAMER ASHORE.

A Lloyd's Sutton-on-Sea, Lincolnshire, telegram states that the Danish steamer Bogatyr, from Seville for Middlesbro', is ashore south of Chapel Point. Fourteen of the crew came ashore in a boat. The captain reports nine unaccounted for.

MARKET REPORTS.

Grain.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Foreign wheat irregular, and from 3d. to 1/- down on the week; English unaltered. Maize 6d. to 1/- dearer. Oats in sellers' favour. Flour at nominally last week's prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba wheat, 77/-; No. 2, 76/-; No. 3, 75/-; hard winter, 74/- to 74/6; English, 60/- to 64/-; maize, 55/- to 55/6; beans, 58/6; flour, 51/6 to 54/6.

CARLISLE CORN MARKET, February 26.—Supply continues small, and trade quiet at to-day's quotations, 12/- for three imperial bushels.

Cattle.

DONCASTER CATTLE MARKET, February 26.—Owing to the storm, supplies of cattle and sheep were much below the average, and buyers were few, trade being quiet, especially for milch beasts, which made £24 to £29; bullocks, £17 to £25; heifers, £16 to £20; stirks, £10 to £14 per head. Sheep slow, and only a few ewes offered; whilst young pigs were absent, and strong stores made 33/- to 40/- each.

Provisions.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE VEGETABLE MARKET, February 26.—Our market was rather better supplied this morning with all classes of seasonable vegetables. Demand very active, especially for cabbages, and extreme prices well maintained. An early clearance of everything effected. Quotations:—York cabbages, 20/- to 30/- to 34/- to 41/-; Savoys, 37/- to 45/- and 53/- to 60/- per load; Swede turnips, 1/1 to 1/6 per cwt.; cauliflowers, best, 4/- to 7/6; seconds, 2/- to 3/6 per flasket; parsley, 10d. to 1/- per float; celery, 1/6 to 2/6 per bunch; parsnips, 1/3 per dozen bunches; ditto, per cwt., 3/6 to 4/-; carrots, 9d. to 1/- per dozen bunches; Brussels sprouts, 2/- to 2/6 per float; rhubarb, 1/6 to 3/- per dozen bunches; beet, 5d. to 7d. per bunch; white turnips, 6d. to 9d. and 1/- per bunch.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE POTATO MARKET, Feb. 26.—Market well supplied with potatoes. Demand steady for prime qualities, and prices well maintained; secondary and inferior grades continue a drug. Best Up-to-Dates, 3/4 to 3/8; Skerry Blues, 5/- per cwt.; others at prices to clear.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE FISH MARKET, February 26.—Only a few packages of white fish up this morning from local trawlers and country smacks; 2 packages of salmon, and 9 chests of lobsters. Salmon, per lb., 1/1 to 1/6; lobsters, per 13, best, 15/- to 20/-; soles, per 9 pairs, large, 20/- to 25/-; medium, 15/- to 17/6; slips, 6/- to 8/-; plaice, per half-box, 15/- to 20/-; cod, 10/- to 12/-; ray, 10/- to 15/-.

BILLINGSGATE FISH MARKET, February 26.—Supply liberal; demand poor. Soles, 2/6; slips, 2/3; red mullet, 2/-; dories, 7d. per lb.; turbot, 13/-; brill, 12/-; halibut, 14/-; lemon soles, 12/6; English plaice, 9/-; Aberdeen, 9/-; Dutch, 7/-; Faroe, 7/-; hake, 9/-; skate, 7/-; live cod, 4/-; dead, 3/-; whiting 6/-; gurnet, 6/- per stone; steamer haddocks, 24/- to 42/-; per trunk; live eels, 22/-; dead, 20/- per draft; lobsters, 30/- to 80/- per score; crabs, 25/- per hamper.

GRIMSBY FISH MARKET, February 26.—Seven trawlers landed very poor supplies; prices easier on a fair demand. Soles, 2/9 to 3/-; turbot, 1/2 to 1/3; brills, 1/- to 1/2 per lb.; English plaice, 10/- to 10/6; medium, 9/6 to 10/-; lemon soles, 14/6 to 15/-; whitings, 8/3 to 8/6; dead halibut, 15/- to 22/-; live cod, 5/- to 5/6; dead, 3/6 to 5/-; kit haddocks, 7/6 to 8/-; gibbed, 9/3 to 9/6 per stone.

LONDON CENTRAL MEAT MARKET, February 26.—Beef—Scotch long sides, 5/10 to 6/-; short, 6/- to 6/4; English sides, 5/7 to 5/10; Irish, 5/7 to 5/10; Argentine hindquarters, 5/8. Mutton—Scotch tegs, 7/- to 8/-; wethers, 6/- to 7/-; ewes, 5/6 to 6/-; New Zealand wethers, 5/3 to 5/4; ewes, 5/-; veal, English, 5/- to 7/4; pork, English, 6/8 to 7/10.

LONDON BORO' AND SPITALFIELDS POTATO MARKET, February 26.—Supplies of fair extent occupied moderate attention at generally steady prices. Quotations:—Best Dunbars, 130/-; Kents, 85/- to 95/-; Essex, 80/- to 95/-; Lincolns, 85/- to 105/-; Bedfords, 85/- to 100/-; Scotch Maincrops, 110/- to 115/-; King Edwards, 80/- to 100/-; Up-to-Dates, 80/- to 95/-, and Blacklands, 75/- to 85/- per ton.

CLYDE CRUSHED SUGAR MARKET, February 26.—Official Report—Market closed without change; a fair business done.

Butter.

LITTLE GREEN WHOLESALE BUTTER AND EGG MARKET, February 26.—Butter markets quiet at recent advance. Fair offerings of eggs, and move more freely, the easier currencies giving stimulus to business. Quotations:—Best average farmers' hen eggs, 14/8 to 15/6 per 120; choice, fresh, extra selected, 13/8 to 14/-; ordinary and dealers', 13/- to 13/6; seconds, smalls, etc., 11/- to 12/8; duck eggs, 16/- to 16/8.

CORK BUTTER MARKET, February 26.—Thirds, 90/-; fresh butter, 133/- per cwt.

Miscellaneous.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (First Report), February 26.—First estimated sales, 8,000 bales (including 4,000 late yesterday). The market opened with a quiet demand. Futures opened 1 point under to 2 points over, and now (11 o'clock) are 3 points under to 2½ points over yesterday's close—February, 7.56½d.; March-April, 7.52d.; May-June, 7.49d.; July-August, 7.44½d.; October-November, 7.28½d.; January-February, 7.22½d. Imports, 9,828 bales.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (Second Report), February 26.—Sales, 8,000 bales (including 4,000 sold late yesterday); speculation, 2,500 bales. American market quiet; quotations raised 1 point; mid., 7.73d. Brazils raised 1 point. East Indian, fair business at unchanged rates. Egyptian, good business at steady rates; sales, 1,500 bales. Futures barely steady, 3½ points under to ½ point over yesterday's close—February, 7.56d.; March-April, 7.51d.; May-June, 7.48d.; July-August, 7.44d.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET (Third Report), February 26.—Futures closed barely steady. 3½ points under to 1 point over yesterday's close—February, 7.56d.; February-March, 7.51½d.; March-April, 7.51d.; April-May, 7.49d.; May-June, 7.48d.; June-July, 7.46d.; July-August, 7.44d.; August-September, 7.36d.; September-October, 7.30d.; October-November, 7.26½d.; November-December, 7.24d.; December-January, 7.22d.; January-February, 7.20½d. Egyptian futures closed steady, 4 points down to 2 up—February, 11.56d.

Hay and Straw.

LONDON HAY AND STRAW MARKET, February 26.—Moderate arrivals passed off with a good demand at generally late rates. Quotations:—Best meadow hay, 132/6 to 137/6; good, 107/6 to 122/6; best clover, 130/- to 140/-; good, 120/- to 127/6; best clover and ryegrass mixture, 132/6 to 140/-; good, 117/6 to 122/6; best sainfoin, 127/6 to 135/-; best Lucerne, 115/- to 120/-. Straw, 40/- to 50/- per load, delivered.

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[illegible]ESTICS CONTINUED.
[illegible] General; good cook; two in family; washing given out; man helps; [illegible] Crescent, Lucan, Co. Dublin. [illegible] young General Wanted, family two; [illegible] Call, 3 to 4, 7 Exchequer st. [illegible] Wanted, trustworthy, agreeable, good plain cook, some washing; [illegible] £14-1/2 Clonliffe road. [illegible] Servant Wanted; no washing; must be [illegible] Apply 2 Cole's lane. [illegible] Would any lady recommend strong, steady [illegible] small family, suburbs.—A 1843, this office. [illegible] Servant Wanted; early riser, good worker. [illegible] road, Clontarf. [illegible] Servant Wanted for small family; plain [illegible] washing; must be well recommended. [illegible] to 41 Highfield road, Rathgar. [illegible] Servant Wanted, age 18 to 25, about [illegible] accustomed to cooking; three in [illegible] situation; wages £18; no basement. [illegible] Houghton, 53 Berlin road, Cabra.
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THE ENEMY'S POINT OF VIEW.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.)

that all nations would welcome discussion of the peace question." After similar quotations from an article attributed to Mr. Bernard Shaw, the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* says:—

"All private reports which one receives from England indicate that hundreds of thousands of Englishmen share this view, and that the longing for peace among the English people is at any rate not less than everywhere else. And yet this feeling will for the present produce no practical consequences, because the Government is still hoping—and is, indeed, more hopeful than a little while ago—being just like a man with consumption, in whom, the nearer he comes to his end, periods of extravagant hope follow upon periods of depression. The Government has recently instructed the newspapers to suppress all signs of war weariness in England, on the ground that it is aware that Germany has reached the end of her resources, and very soon must go down on her knees and beg for peace."

After further talk about "these illusions," the *Fremdenblatt* ascribes them to the recent discussions in Germany on the economic situation.

Allied War Councils.

German military writers are now making great efforts to demonstrate that the war councils of the Allies will not be able to effect real stategic co-operation. In a long discussion of the subject, the Military Correspondent of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* says:—

"A whole decision can be reached only by a single party. The meeting will always overestimate the risks attaching to every decision, and, consequently, with the intelligible object of diminishing the risk, will deprive its decision of effective force. To this we have to add an experience which Napoleon once expressed in the words 'rather one bad general than two good ones.' In war it does not matter so much that an idea shall be absolutely worked out as that a sensible idea shall be put into action with the utmost energy. We Germans have, therefore, no sort of reason to see in the new arrangements of the *Entente* anything like a turning point in their conduct of the war—still less any deterioration in our general strategical position."

The Allied Pledge to Belgium.

The French, British, and Russian Ministers at the Belgian Court recently handed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the declaration by the "Allied and Guaranteeing Powers" that the latter will not end hostilities until Belgium has been restored to her political and economic independence, and has been liberally indemnified for the damages she has sustained. This action is resented by the Germans, who object particularly to the suggestion that they may be called upon to indemnify the Belgians. The Munich *Neueste Nachrichten*, an influential Bavarian newspaper, says that the step taken by the Allied Powers is a most remarkable one, and is the more extraordinary as neither in the present military situation nor in the prospects for the future is any basis whatever to be found for the assumption that "those guaranteeing Powers" are in a position, or ever will be in a position, to fulfil their promises.

In these circumstances, the journal adds, one cannot but wonder what has impelled the "guaranteeing Powers" to make "such a peculiar declaration" to Belgium just at the present moment. As the outside world knows of nothing that would seem to justify this step, the *Neueste Nachrichten* continues, it must be assumed that "all kinds of things" have happened behind the scenes which make the *Entente* Powers desire to "chain Belgium more securely to them." The Munich newspaper presumes that the Belgian Government has been manifesting an inclination to make a separate peace with Germany, and that England, France, and Russia wish to stifle this inclination by means of "the above-mentioned declaration."

"More Dignity Needed."

In the *Tägliche Rundschau*, under this heading, we read the following:—"The 9.52 express from Carlsruhe left the station 45 minutes late, and in Appenweier there was another delay of 15 minutes. The reason given for the delay was that a highly-placed personage was expected by the Strassburg train, and that it was necessary to wait for him.

"On the platform the railway officials, in uniform and decorated with their orders, made us believe that at least a German prince was expected. There was much rejoicing when a rumour arose that it was Hindenburg. The expected train arrived, and out of a first class compartment descended a Cardinal, who was saluted with much humility. Numerous hands attended to the Cardinal's modest luggage, the change of trains was effected, and the journey continued. And what was the explanation? Merely that Cardinal Mercier, of Brussels, was travelling to Freiburg! The same Cardinal Mercier who, from the very beginning, has shown so hateful an attitude towards the Germans is now the object of German subservience. All that was wanted in Appenweier to make the scene complete was the flags, but perhaps they had no Belgian flags at hand."

Berlin's Lack of Butter.

The *Berliner Tageblatt*, with reference to the Berlin butter regulations, says: "It remains to be seen whether any improvement will thereby be introduced in the situation in Berlin, which is already insupportable." The journal considers that the measure will not remedy the lack of butter which prevails in some other parts of the Empire as well as in Berlin. This could only be achieved by a fairer distribution of the butter supplies throughout the Empire. "If there were fair distribution throughout the Empire the amount produced by Germany herself would suffice to provide everyone with butter, even if certain restrictions, which in war time are only right and just, had to be introduced." Among the reasons given for the scarcity of butter is the wholesale slaughter of cows last year. Another cause is the "particularism" of certain States. "Mecklenburg allows the export of no game and no pigs, while Bavaria allows the export of no butter." Berlin, however, which consumes 15 per cent. of the entire home production, depends mainly on imports from other States of the Empire and other countries. Berlin requires in peace time three thousand zentners daily, but in the present war conditions 1,500 would suffice.

Making the Best Of It.

In big type surrounded by a frame, and in the middle of their news columns, a number of patriotic journals print the following:—

1. Whoever uses bread cereals as food for cattle sins against the Fatherland!

2. Whoever feeds cattle with more than the legal quantity of oats, mixed maize or mixed grain with which oats are mixed, sins against the Fatherland!

In a leading South German journal we read the following notice in a prominent column:—"Bread is the gift of the Lord to His people. We Germans have been blessed by God beyond all measure, as our military situation proves, but bread is scarce, for in His inscrutable decrees God has not seen fit to give us a superabundance of it. Let us therefore do our best, let us save every crumb, and let us be thankful for what we have. Let there be no repining!"

"Hate" in Prussian Schools.

The German papers give prominence to what they justly described as a "remarkable" circular which has been officially issued to inspectors of elementary schools in the district of Frankfurt-on-Oder, which is near Berlin. It is intended to counteract efforts which are said to have been made of late "on educational grounds" to check the deliberate teaching of "hatred." The local authorities write:—

"No place can be given to these efforts, which arise from a feeling of general brotherhood of the peoples and of international peace sentimentality. All the less can it be the business of the elementary schools to adopt this sort of attitude to the question of future international relations because, in view of the peaceful sentiments of the German people, which are in direct contrast with those of other peoples, there is absolutely no danger that hatred perilous to the future peace could grow among our youth.

"On the contrary, it is an educational duty of the first importance for the school to take care that the terrible lessons and experiences of the recent past shall remain imperishably fixed in the minds of the present generation. Above all things, the conviction must be rooted in our people everywhere that Germany's peace and security can be guaranteed only by her forces on land and sea, and that all strivings towards brotherhood with other peoples in the spheres of Kultur must never be allowed to lead to the smallest weakening of Germany's armaments for war."

It is further insisted that school teachers must instruct the children that all "parties and separate tendencies" must be subordinated to the unity of Germany, and impress upon them "the blessings of a powerful kingdom, as well as love for the King and Emperor and the whole House of Hohenzollern."

POINTS FROM THE CRITICS.

EXPERT VIEWS ON WAR PHASES.

The Attack on Verdun.

It is not clear what the Germans hoped to gain by their costly attack on the French positions north of Verdun, unless they hoped to penetrate by surprise in the same way as they seized the fortified height of St. Mihiel. The steep hills and narrow valleys of the battlefield somewhat cramped the defensive arrangements of the French in early days, but they have been developed and perfected with extraordinary care, and are held with ceaseless vigilance. Not only would it be disastrous to lose ground at Verdun, but so long as the struggle lasts the place must furnish a sally-port into the very heart of the German zone of armies whenever the strain of war reduces the hostile ranks so that the offensive may be attempted with a fair chance of success.

The Crown Prince's army invests Verdun on the north, and stretches its tentacles so as to link up with the Wurtemburg army in the Argonnes Forest hills on its right and the Metz army on its left, which fought De Castelnau at Chateau Salins in the first days of the war. Even if the young Prince himself is not a military genius, it may be assumed that he has by his side some of the best of the renowned General Staff and that his troops were carefully selected. They have not, however, made appreciable progress since the two opening successes, which were obtained by the surprise use of their superior artillery and machine-guns intimately combined with skilful entrenching. The Germans hitherto have shown no superiority in shock tactics; the locally superior strokes of leadership have gained some successes such as the fall of St. Mihiel a year ago.

Strategically, a German advance through Lorraine or through Alsace would be very desirable from their point of view, because it would turn, to use the technical military phrase, the French line now facing north-east, just as the widely outflanking movements of the German armies through Belgium turned the French armies facing east at the outset. The French leaders have not lost sight of the danger, and narrowly watch the concentrations of German troops on that front. On the French side it is fortified with laborious care. The somewhat spasmodic attacks recently made by the invaders at different, widely-separated points are no doubt intended to puzzle our troops and Allies as to the decisive stroke which will be attempted later. Perhaps its target is not yet decided upon, and these tentative attacks may be developed if they find a weak spot. If there were any chance of capturing or completely surrounding Verdun, no doubt the German Main Headquarters would concentrate on their task, for at present the French keep open the Châlons-Verdun railway, in spite of the intrusion of German trenches, which narrow the French zone.

It is shrewdly suspected in the Allied camp that the Germans desire to bluff, to mystify, to show their strength, and feel their way; but in the West they will remain strategically on the defensive. Their next great offensive is more likely to be aimed at their Eastern foe.—The Military correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*.

German Strategy.

There remains only one theory to explain this frantic activity on the part of the enemy in this most unpropitious season, and it is that Germany has exact information as to General Joffre's intentions, and is trying to get her blow in first. Let us suppose that the German higher command discovered a big French concentration behind the lines in the Champagne. The German higher leading would say:

It is our business to disturb this methodical preparation, to bring about the withdrawal of units now gathering for the grand assault against our position in the Champagne, and to attract to some other point, and in consequence bring about a weakening in the attacking body, the artillery which the French are concentrating. If we do not do this the French will attack in overwhelming numbers, and with a tremendous weight of artillery, at a vital point on our line. We shall lose one of the three important railways which serve the Western front and will enable us to make good our retirement in the event of defeat, and the enemy will force us to evacuate a very considerable portion of France which we now hold. Our business, therefore, is to attack at a point within reach of the Champagne concentration, and force the French to draw upon their reserved forces, and in consequence to postpone their premeditated assault."

If such an argument were used, and such considerations weighed with the German General Staff, the Verdun attack is understandable. The German could not wait for the weather, for waiting for the weather would mean waiting the convenience of General Joffre; therefore the attack would be decided upon, whatever be the cost and whatever be the disadvantages. If you examine the more serious of the German assaults you will come to the conclusion that, so far as the Southern field is concerned, they are delivered with this object. All the attacks, therefore, have been made on the left and right flanks of the two big sectors where the German received such smashing blows in September, and where he might reasonably expect to receive greater blows in the spring of 1916. His expectation might be influenced by the fact that these sectors are nearest to the bases of his enemy, to England and to Paris, and though he may be wrong in his deductions he has very excellent grounds for his argument.—The Military Correspondent of the *Birmingham Daily Post*.

The Fall of Erzerum.

It was inevitable that a success so rapid and so unexpected, and one of so much political consequence, should give rise to a great mass of speculation with regard to its strategical results. These speculations are premature. We do not know the condition of the roads nor what number of men the Russians can spare for what will now be their lengthening communications far away from their railhead beyond the frontier. We do not even know how far they command the Black Sea, though we may guess that their command has been sufficiently complete to prevent reinforcements and munitions from reaching Trebizond, since the fall of Erzerum was most probably due to the interruption of this line of communication.

They may find it necessary to march north and hold Trebizond before they do anything else. If they are not compelled to use a large force thus, their most obvious course will clearly be to try to strike at the Bagdad railway, and the most convenient point for that would be Diarbekir—140 miles from Erzerum; they are already at Mush with their southern, or left, wing. Any considerable Russian force at Diarbekir would menace the existence of all Turkish forces in Mesopotamia, but the march is a difficult one through a mass of desperately confused and high mountain ridges of the Armenian Taurus.

The only certain thing we can say is this upon the strategical situation created by the fall of Erzerum: that it will compel a Turkish concentration towards Armenia. It may relieve the pressure upon the small British forces in Mesopotamia; it must almost certainly postpone to another season the difficult and now perhaps impossible scheme for invading Egypt.

This latter, once it is fully appreciated, will release for the general purposes of the Allies much the greater part of the forces concentrated for the defence of the Suez Canal. And it is perhaps the renewed availability of this force for action elsewhere which is the chief consequence of the fall of the capital of Turkish Armenia.—Mr. Hilaire Belloc in *Land and Water*.

An Open Question.

Our Allies occupy a central position in relation to Turkish forces advancing from Angora (the terminus of the railway from Constantinople) and Nisibin (the Bagdad Railway Terminus), and they can therefore reinforce either front at will by transferring troops from the other front, or from a general reserve at Erzerum. The two Turkish forces, on the other hand, are separated by impassable mountains, which preclude such a manœuvre. But if the Russians should continue their divergent movements the advantage of their central position would diminish on account of the increasing distance between the two fronts, which would soon make the transfer of troops ineffective because of the time it would occupy. Assuming, then, that the Russians are not confident of being able to overwhelm simultaneously such forces as the Turks may conceivably bring up from the west and south, they will presumably hold one front defensively in order to concentrate sufficient troops to ensure defeating the enemy on the other front. That accomplished, they would reinforce the other wing, and, *mutatis mutandis*, repeat the operation. Until the Turks have been subjected to these two further defeats we must expect that our Allies will act circumspectly, and not embark on any distant and risky enterprises which might bring them up against superior forces.

Supposing this to be the plan of operations, which wing will open the ball will probably be determined by the Turkish movements, regarding which the Russians are no doubt sufficiently well informed. Looking only at the map, it would seem likely that the enemy's concentration would be completed at Nisibin earlier than, say, at Erzingan. There is through railway communication from Beersheba to Nisibin, and the time occupied in transporting troops would depend on the numbers conveyed and the amount of rolling stock available—both unknown quantities. From Nisibin to Mush, as the crow flies, is 120 miles. Troops coming from Constantinople would probably march from Angora, about 400 miles by the main road to Erzingan—a good six weeks' march under present conditions of weather. It might, therefore, seem likely that the first serious engagement would be fought south of Erzerum. But the rolling stock which can be made available at Beersheba is probably very limited, and the outward and return journey, some 1,300 miles, must be estimated to occupy more than two days, irrespective of the time spent in entraining and detraining troops. On the whole, it is not unlikely that the transport from Constantinople would be as rapid as from the Egyptian frontier, and it must remain an open question on which flank the first engagement will be fought.—The Military Correspondent of the *Morning Post*.

The Sequel to Erzerum.

The Russians are following up with characteristic vigour their capture of Erzerum, which the Turks have now discovered to be an open town of no military importance, although they do not seem yet to have converted the Germans to this view. With the probable capture of Trebizond by the Russians the latter will secure an additional foothold on the Black Sea littoral, enabling stores and reinforcements to be sent to Asia Minor from Odessa by sea instead of clogging the Tiflis-Kars railway. This is quite an important contingency, which may react seriously in the near future upon the conduct of the whole campaign in Asia Minor. Of the 100,000 Turks said to be actively engaged in the defence of the "open town" and "old forts" of Erzerum between 35,000 and 40,000 are believed to have been accounted for in casualties, and the remainder are scattered and badly off for supplies. A portion constituting the original right wing of the Third Turkish Army is reported to be trying to effect a junction south of Lake Van with the force which was withdrawn from Bagdad in the hope of relieving the pressure on Erzerum. The combination might conceivably prove a formidable one if it were not pretty certain to be hampered by Ottoman incapacity to rise to an occasion of this kind. The fugitive right wing of the Third Turkish Army has, it must be remembered, lost its base, and the "relieving" force from Bagdad is also probably to some extent in the air. The Russians again are not only at Mush but also to the east of Lake Van, and spreading through Persia. The chances are that to avoid being "netted" the Turks will fall back on Mosul, a proceeding which would open up some very interesting possibilities indeed.—The Military Correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald*.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

REVIEW OF ITS OPERATIONS.

SECOND REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

On September 30, 1915, the National Relief Fund amounted to £5,305,505, and in addition the sum of £95,388 was received for interest on that portion of the sum which had been invested temporarily. A further sum of £127,750 had been paid over to the fund from the amount collected by the Queen's Work for Women Fund. The aggregate receipts, therefore, amounted to £5,528,643. Of that sum £2,166,509 had been paid in naval and military relief, and £367,628 for civil relief.

The report of the Executive Committee (which is addressed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales) on the administration of the fund up to the date mentioned is issued as a White Paper. The report states that with the steady increase in the number of men with the Colours there has been a corresponding increase in the expenditure on rent allowances, for "without some assistance towards the payment of rent, thousands of soldiers' homes would have been broken up, and though these allowances now form the largest items of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association's expenditure on behalf of the fund, the Committee are satisfied that they have been entirely justified by the results. The non-recoverable grants include special assistance in cases of sickness and grants towards funeral expenses."

"LEARNING TO BE BLIND."

In referring to the work at St. Dunstan's Hostel for blinded soldiers and sailors, to enable them to undertake some occupation and save them from becoming merely helpless, it is stated:—

"The subjects in which training is given include Braille reading and writing, typewriting, massage, mat-making, boot-repairing, basket-making, carpentry, poultry-farming and market-gardening, telephone operating, shorthand-writing and typing. Some of the men have already left St. Dunstan's and have settled as poultry farmers, mat makers, and boot repairers. Others who have learned these occupations and carpentry or basket making will be leaving shortly. It should be remembered that, in addition to providing these men with an industrial training suited to their need, it is also necessary to teach them to perform all the simpler operations of everyday life, which cease to be automatic when a man loses his sight. The blind have to learn to adjust themselves to a new way of life, and it has been truly said that they have to learn to be blind."

All branches of the work at St. Dunstan's are carried on under the supervision of Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, "to whose energy and enthusiasm" both the initiation and the successful execution of the scheme are mainly due.

QUEEN MARY'S HOSPITALS.

Regarding the work done at the Queen Mary's Convalescent Auxiliary Hospitals, which, it is considered, may properly be assisted from the fund, the report remarks:—

"These hospitals are intended solely for the purpose of fitting men who have lost their limbs with suitable artificial limbs. The value of an artificial limb depends mainly upon its being properly adjusted to the need of the individual case. The Queen Mary's Auxiliary Hospitals take amputation cases when the patients are sufficiently recovered to allow an artificial limb to be fitted, and they keep the man long enough to test the adjustment and to accustom him to the use of an artificial limb. In order that the scheme might not be delayed by the necessity of appealing for public funds, the committee made a grant of £10,000 to enable the first hospital at Roehampton House to be opened. Up to the end of September over 450 patients had been dealt with and their limbs provided or fitted. There was then accommodation for over 200 patients already available, and additional wards to take a further 200 cases were nearing completion."

CIVILIAN AIR RAID VICTIMS.

The total amount issued for the relief of civil distress during the half-year was £77,720, as compared with £256,947 for the previous half-year. The bulk of this expenditure has gone in direct assistance, as, for the reasons already explained, such distress as existed was not of a kind which could be dealt with to any appreciable extent by schemes of employment.

The only new feature during the half-year has been the demand for assistance to victims of air raids. The committee felt that the fund was clearly available for the temporary relief of distress in these cases. In addition, however, to this temporary assistance, the committee accepted a proposal that in cases of material loss suffered by poor persons who are uninsured, and would be unlikely or unable to insure, assistance should be given to a limited extent in replacing furniture or utensils necessary for the daily life of the home. The report concludes:—

"The committee decided to defer for the present any special effort to raise further funds. At the present time the general conditions of employment are exceptionally good, but it must be remembered that this prosperity is largely artificial, and it is to be feared that on the termination of the war the return of so many men from the Army to industrial life and the cessation of war work may cause a dislocation of industry resulting in heavy demands upon the resources of the fund. Should this anticipation be realised, the committee propose to take active steps to urge upon the public once more the duty of responding to the appeal initiated by Your Royal Highness.

FRENCH ARMY UNIFORM.

COMPLETE CHANGE OF SYSTEM SINCE THE WAR BEGAN.

BRITISH INFLUENCES.

The following despatch has been received from Mr. W. H. Warner Allen, representative of the British Press with the French Army:—

Since the beginning of the war the entire system of French military uniforms has been changed. This change marks what the French themselves consider an essential modification of the French Army—not merely in costume, but also in training, aspirations, and general character. Of all the belligerent nations the army which originally began hostilities has disappeared, and a new army has taken its place. To-day one may occasionally see an officer in the uniform which was worn up till the Battle of the Marne, but it seems almost as antiquated as the uniform in which the Grand Army of Napoleon used to fight. The spirit of the troops, too, has changed. The Frenchman in the trenches to-day is fighting without any thought of military glory; he is fighting grimly as a civilian soldier, to defend his country and to protect from the barbarian everything that civilisation holds most dear. In such a struggle everything must necessarily be judged from the point of view of efficiency, and it is efficiency that has designed the new uniforms.

Before the war the whole question of uniform was being considered, but at that time France scarcely believed in the possibility of war, and consequently the public discussed it in a dilettante fashion. Eventually, when the war broke out, no reform whatever had been made. The infantry officers were fully aware of the danger of those red trousers which for some obscure reason the Parisian had come to consider as a traditional symbol of the glory of the French Army. As a matter of fact, the red trousers were in no way traditional; except in so far as they were connected with the military history of the Second Empire. They came into existence in the reign of Charles X. (1830), and at the time their appearance was entirely due to a desire to encourage the madder industry. Napoleon's uniforms were blue, and from the days of Louvois, in the seventeenth century—who introduced uniform into the French Army—the traditional colour of the French soldier has been blue.

The æsthetic question complicated the whole uniform problem before the war. The tenue réséda—the drab-green uniforms with which experiments were made—was laughed out of court as being ugly, though, had it been adopted, it might well have saved many lives. Then M. Detaille, the painter, endeavoured to design a uniform which should be both effective from the artistic point of view and practical. It is to be feared that in his uniforms efficiency was sacrificed to the requirements of the artist. In any case, it was left to the facts of war to produce the new French uniform.

BLUE FOR RED—

Before the battle of the Marne the French tried to conceal the red in the képi by covering it with blue cloth, and it was hoped that the combination of the ample skirts of the capote (or long blue tunic) and gaiters would prevent the red trousers from affording too easy a mark. It was found, however, that this idea was far too optimistic, and France proceeded with praiseworthy equanimity to change the whole of its uniforms in the midst of the struggle for its national existence. It was no small feat to accomplish such a task at a time when the national resources were being strained to the utmost, but the feat was accomplished, and well accomplished.

Blue, as the traditional colour, was chosen for the new uniforms, except for the troops of North Africa, who had before the war been authorised to wear khaki in summer, and for the chasseurs-à-pied, who consider themselves picked troops, and insisted on retaining their old dark blue uniforms. Since, as a rule, the chasseurs-à-pied fight in mountainous and forest country, the darker colour offers but slight disadvantages.

It was found that pale sky-blue rendered men almost as invisible as khaki. It had only one drawback: it was distinctly delicate, and inclined to get dirty, but, surprisingly enough, experience has shown that if the cloth is good the sky blue uniform lasts a very considerable time, even with the roughest usage. Everything depends on the quality of the cloth. In the past the French hussars had worn a pale blue tunic, and had found that if the cloth was good it remained smart after long wear.

The arrival of the British in France exercised a great influence on the new French uniforms. Every Frenchman who was brought in contact with the British troops was loud in praise of the excellence of our equipment from all points of view. The Sam Browne belt was adopted immediately by the French officer, without any special authorisation or regulation, simply for its convenience, and its use has since been consecrated in the regulations by permission being given to wear a yellow belt instead of the black leather which was before compulsory.

Many French officers have also adopted the tunic with the low collar open at the throat, and have so far followed the English fashion as to wear a pale blue shirt and tie showing through the opening. In the old French Army—and the regulations have never been changed—the tunic with the high, close-fitting collar was compulsory. It is a tradition in France that officers should be given great liberty in the matter of uniform. In the days of Napoleon officers—especially in the cavalry—were free to wear very much what they liked. Before the present war it was commonly said that in any mess it was practically impossible to find two officers who were dressed exactly in the same fashion.

DISTINCTIVE BADGES.

At the present time it is comparatively easy to distinguish from the uniform the arm and unit to which any given officer or man belongs. In the first place there is the broad division of blue and khaki, the khaki being reserved, as said above, for the troops—officers and men—of North Africa. Whether a man is clothed in khaki or blue, the distinguishing mark is to be found in the collar patch. The ground colour of this patch is the same as that of the piping, or line, down the breeches and the line on the forage cap. Originally the tradition colour for the infantry was jonquil yellow, but it was found that this was too visible, consequently for the infantry the ground colour of the collar patch to-day is sky-blue, like the uniform. For the cavalry it is dark blue, for the artillery bright scarlet, and for the engineers black velvet. As a general rule the auxiliary services are distinguished by velvet, and the engineers received their black velvet at a time when they were regarded merely as auxiliaries.

The simplicity, typical of the French mind, with which this uniform system has been devised is the clearest proof of the great change that has come over the armies of Europe—the disappearance of professional armies and the substitution for them of armies of civilian specialists, fighting on scientific principles for a definite object, the destruction of German militarism.

OUR NEW ARMIES.

THROUGH ITALIAN EYES.

The London correspondent of the *Corriere della Sera*, Signor Guglielmo Emanuel, sends to his paper an account of a visit to the British front in France. He writes:—

"Of all the armies fighting the battles of the great war this is the youngest and the newest. . . . . . A staff officer told me that to-day perhaps there are not above two hundred officers in the firing line who came here with the first Expeditionary Force which fought the epic retreat from Mons. The others are not all dead or missing, for many of the best have gone over to the General Staff to cope with the increase of work brought about by the increase of the armies. But the remark still has its value, for the creation of this magnificent body of officers to command and set in motion this new million of soldiers is one of the greatest miracles accomplished by English effort. . . . . England has been fortunate in possessing a caste from which it was possible to draw and mould rapidly her young officers. The education of character as it is understood in an English college has not succeeded perhaps in creating industrial men and merchants capable of beating altogether the competition of Germany. But in the moment of crisis it furnished at once the best possible substitute for the regular army, the best materials for the armies England had to begin to organise.

"An army of youths—this is the first impression one feels in visiting the magnificent English army encamped in Flanders. This is an army that does not deteriorate, but grows in strength and value with every day that passes. It is like a generous wine which age makes perfect. Happy are the armies whose fault is youth, for the final victory will be theirs."

KING PETER'S FAITH IN VICTORY.

FOR FREEDOM AGAINST FEUDALISM.

THE DREAM OF HIS LIFE.

A correspondent of the Associated Press telegraphs the following report of an interview which he had last week at Aedipsos with King Peter of Serbia:—

As it were hidden away in this almost inaccessible spot, bent under 72 years of disillusionments and sufferings, physically broken, virtually blind, his Crown gone, his native land overrun by ancient enemies, the exiled Sovereign grimly clings to life in the hope of participating in the ultimate triumph of his countrymen. The sorest trials have not dimmed his spirits nor clouded his intellect. King Peter spoke with the same determined courage as that with which he led his soldiers to victory over the Turks.

After referring in the warmest terms to the splendid assistance given to the Serbians by the American Red Cross doctors and nurses, Relief Commissions, Sanitary Commissions, and expressing his unbounded gratitude to the American people, the King said:—"May God in His mercy reward your country, Sir."

Then, speaking of the war, he said:—

"For those of our Allies who have remained faithful we have no reproach. They came to our aid too late to save us. But they came. They were not organised for war nor ruled over by soldiers. Had they been so organised, so ruled, perhaps they would have been able to save us.

"Civilisation cannot be made an engine of war perfected to foresee every contingency. It is inherent in liberty that it acts slowly and clumsily, but this very slowness and clumsiness constitute the strength of free peoples. Their triumph is long coming, but it is none the less sure.

THE DIVIDING DANUBE.

"I do not know if it is quite understood in America what it is all about that almost entire Europe is at war, but I will tell you in a word. It is the supreme, the last, effort of feudalism, a fight to a finish between the feudalism of yesterday and the freedom of to-morrow. That is why the war had to break out on the banks of the Danube, and not elsewhere, for the Danube separates by so little the most obstinate feudalism maintained by unworthy intrigues, like those of the smaller Italian States in the Middle Ages, from the most stubborn ideal of liberty implanted in those ready to fight to the last man to realise that ideal.

"Yet we have always wanted to live at peace with the Austrians. Their way has not been our way, but we Serbs are like you Americans. It is part of our creed to live on good terms with our neighbours. Often I have looked from my windows in Belgrade at the fields and mountains of Austria on the opposite side of the Danube and said to myself, 'Now is it possible we should not be able to live and let live as between neighbours?'

"But it is of the nature of a feudal State that liberty cannot and must not flourish in the same vicinity, and Austria arranged all that in the time of the Obrenovitches. Serbia was made merely a tributary of Austria. She was no longer free at all. By the treaty of 1881 she renounced all her rights. To-day again Austria still seeks to follow towards Serbia the same policy as before, to create in Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia, and Herzegovina an empire of vassal States for the benefit of her medieval fudal nobility.

"But we cannot stand that. We are peasants, but free peasants. I, the King, I come from the people, but that heroic people who preferred death to comfortable and shameful slavery. My grandfather was a peasant, and I am prouder of that than of my Throne. Crowns are lost, but the pure, clean blood of those who have lived of the earth does not die.

BULGARIA AND GREECE.

"As for Bulgaria, we have proved that we have no rancour against soldiers who fought side by side with us for the liberty of the Balkans. We agreed to make enormous sacrifices that they might remain our friends. They would not. The obsession of Balkanic hegemony pursues them. Yet, despite everything, I say even now with all my heart, 'Let the Bulgarians live in tranquillity at home. There's room enough for all in the Balkans. All that is required is a little goodwill.'"

"And Greece, your Majesty?"

For a while the King did not answer, as if unwilling to touch the subject. At length he said:—

"As for our Ally Greece, she has understood differently from us her interests in the Balkans; but apart from her refusal to participate in the war, shoulder to shoulder with us, she has in other respects fulfilled the duties of friend and neighbour. To-day we are the guests of the Greek people, and we are grateful for their hospitality."

The old man fell silent. Evidently the effort to talk had been a severe strain. The doctor made a sign to the correspondent, but King Peter felt it and gathered strength for a final word. With a single gesture he brushed away the tenderly restraining touch of the aide-de-camp. He bent forward, his broad, square, short-fingered, peasant hands clenched to strike sharply the arms of his chair in emphasis, and he shouted the words:—

"I believe in the liberty of Serbia as I believe in God. It was the dream of my youth. It was for that I fought throughout manhood. It has become the faith of the twilight of my life. I only live to see Serbia free. I pray that God may let me live until the day of redemption of my people. On that day I am ready to die, if the Lord wills. I have struggled a great deal in my life, and am tired, bruised, and broken from it, but I will see, I shall see their triumph. I shall not die before the victory of my country."

OVAMBOLAND.

COUNTRY THE GERMANS COULD NOT COLONISE.

In the north of the former Germany colony of South-West Africa there is a race of 150,000 people, known as the Ovambos, whom the Germans had been unable to conquer. Major S. M. Pritchard, the Officer-in-Charge of Native Affairs in the new British Protectorate, paid a visit to Ovamboland in August last, and the result of his mission is published in a Blue Book.

"Major Pritchard," says the *Cape Times*, commenting on the publication, "was advised to take a strong escort, as both the Ovambos and the Bushmen might be expected to be hostile. This advice he ignored, and he had no reason to regret his decision. He refers particularly to the nervous apprehension which many Germans experience when faced with the necessity of moving among the natives unsupported by force; and he adds: 'I do not think it is too much to say that to these very deficiencies of temperament, prompted, as I believe they are, by the consciousness of the brutalities in their treatment of natives, of which so many of them have been guilty, and giving rise, as they so frequently do, to acts of frightfulness, culminating in serious assaults on, and even in the murder of, natives, much of the trouble between Germans and natives in this country can fairly be attributed.'

"The Germans may have good reason to avoid going among the native tribes without strong armed escorts; but Major Pritchard found that he needed no escort at all. The fame of the Pax Britannica had penetrated even to that closed land, and its representative was welcomed equally by the Christian Chief Martin and the savage Chief Mandume. The former showed a keen appreciation of the economic advantage of sending the young men of his tribe to work for the white man; and the latter accepted without protest a blunt intimation that he would no longer be allowed to murder his tribesmen at his own pleasure. The Chief Martin stated frankly that he and his people had no love for the Germans, and had always wished that the English would come into the country.

"At Major Pritchard's first visit to this chief he received courtesies which, he was assured, no German officer had ever enjoyed. Major Pritchard appears to have laid the foundations well and truly for the establishment, under the British flag, of a more enlightened policy in regard to native affairs than Ovamboland would ever have been likely to know under the Germans."

IMPORTATION OF FRUIT.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the extent to which importation of fruit into the United Kingdom will be prohibited or restricted has not yet been determined, but in any event the importation of oranges from Spain will be allowed without restriction for another month at least.

THE LITERARY WORLD

ABOUT BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

The group of Russian writers now in England may be considered as true messengers of Russia's steadfast attitude in the war, of Russia's confidence in England, and of her hopes for a lasting union in the future constructive work of true culture. The party includes two writers who are peculiarly entitled to represent "the voice of Russia," as they have a vast knowledge of all the different elements of Russian life. These are the two novelists, Vassily Ivanovitch Nemirovitch Danchenko and Count Alexis Nikolaevitch Tolstoy. They belong to two different, in fact opposed, literary currents. The one represents the old school of fiction, the other is a prominent writer of the youngest, ultra-modern literary group. Yet in their contrast they are truly representative of the keen intellectuality of Russia, of her untiring spirit of inquiry.

Vassily Nemirovitch Danchenko, nearly a septuagenarian, is a splendid type of Russian vitality. He is the author of about a hundred volumes of fiction, embracing manifold sides of Russian life. He does not deal in its deeper, inner problems. He represents colour, passion, reality, as seen from its picturesque side. His field of observation is remarkably wide. Society, the stock exchange, stage life, gold mines, Russian monasteries and religious communities, the romantic life of the mountaineers in the Caucasus and the Crimea, form the background of his novels, which reveal the most curious types and customs existing on Russia's vast territory. Nemirovitch Danchenko's books on Lapland and on Spain embody the records of extensive travels. He is also a famous war correspondent. He was in Plevna with Skobelev, and did much to increase the popularity of the "White General." He went to Manchuria in the Russo-Japanese War, and goes now as often as he can to the different Russian fronts—marvellous in his energy and his vitality unabated by age.

Count Alexis Tolstoy descends from a great Russian writer—not from Tolstoy, as might be supposed by his name, but from Turgeniev. And, though very modern in his art, he shows a distinct resemblance to his great antecedent. He pictures in his novels the same class of landed gentry which formed the stock of Turgeniev's types. But he takes them such as they are now, with all the traditions gone, many of them ruined, yet preserving the old "appetites," which, in the younger generation of men and women, have become infused with the modern individualistic spirit. He has an unreserved, realistic way of representing the consequences of old and new elements being combined in the individual souls, but he also has a keen eye for psychological subtleties, for the cravings of the spirit. His novels are suggestive of very modern problems in sex relations and the mental attitude of modern Russia.

Alexis Tolstoy knows, moreover, the land and the peasants; he is a poet of Nature, of the vast Russian landscape. His knowledge of the masses and his insight into the soul of the Russian peasant show to great advantage in his book on the war, dealing in the most attractive, picturesque way with the psychology of the army. Alexis Tolstoy stands for young Russia, and will certainly interest England in this quality, just as the veteran writer, Nemirovitch Danchenko, represents the best elements of the past and is a staunch champion of progressive ideals in social life.

Two other members of the Russian party might be described as representatives of Western, and, to a great extent, English culture in Russia. Kornej Ivanovitch Chukovsky is a young literary critic—one of the most gifted, a clever judge in literary matters, incisive and keenly perceptive of genuine merit in art. He has revealed a good many talents among the younger writers, and, supported by his judgment, they have made a name. He has also laid bare the pretence and emptiness of many would-be geniuses, and destroyed their reputations. He is always in the thick of literary battles, successfully holding his own. Chukovsky has lived in England, and is considered an authority on English literature. He has translated into beautiful Russian the works of Kipling and Wells, and has introduced Walt Whitman into Russia. His latest book on "The British Tommy" shows his great sympathy for England, his appreciation of British character. The book is very popular in Russia, which is another proof of the extreme responsiveness of the Russians to all revelations of English life.

Vladimir Dmitrievitch Nabokov, a journalist and politician, member of the "Cadet" (Constitutional-Democratic) party, was a well-known "Anglophile" long before the war. His political views are governed by English standards, which he carries out successfully in his activity, much to the benefit of his country. And this shows the deep influence of England on progressive minds in Russia. The alliance with England in spirit dates a long time back in Russia; the hope now is that it may be more fully achieved in actual reality during the war and after. V. Nabokov is a writer in literary subjects apart from his political activity. One of the particular objects of his study is Dickens, on whose writings he is considered the best authority in Russia.

Knutsford, the little Cheshire town which has just been the scene of a distressing fire, is, many will readily remember, the scene of Mrs. Gaskell's "Cranford." To Knutsford Elizabeth Stevenson, a motherless baby, was taken at a month old, and there she was brought up with an aunt. Her marriage to Rev. William Gaskell took place in Knutsford Church, and when she died, fifty years ago (November, 1865), she was buried in the graveyard of the Old Presbyterian Meeting-House. "Cranford" was published in book form in June, 1853, but originally appeared as a series of sketches from December, 1851, to May, 1853, in "Household Words."

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, to whom ex-President Roosevelt dedicates his new book, "Fear God and Take Your Own Part," wrote the famous battle hymn which inspires the tribute under curious circumstances. Riding home from a review of troops just after the outbreak of the Civil War she heard the soldiers singing "John Brown's Body." "Why don't you write some better words to that tune?" asked a friend. Mrs Howe replied that she wished she could, and apparently thought no more about it. In the early hours of next morning, however, she awoke with the wished-for lines forming themselves in her brain. She rose hastily, scribbled down the verses, scarcely conscious of what she wrote, then returned to bed and fell asleep again—not, however, without a feeling that something momentous had occurred.

According to present arrangements it is expected that there will be in Yorkshire this year a threefold celebration of the centenary of the birth of Charlotte Brontë. There is some talk of a gathering on the anniversary day (April 21) at Thornton, where in the old vicarage, now partly occupied as a butcher's shop, Charlotte Brontë was born. Then in June the Brontë Society are arranging for a pilgrimage to and a festival at Haworth. The principal celebration will take place in Bradford on October 7. This date has been fixed to suit the convenience of Mrs. Humphry Ward, the President of the Brontë Society, who on that occasion will deliver an address.

One of the most interesting contributions to the Shakespeare tercentenary is being made by the New York Public Library in the form of a collection of Shakespeare portraits. A satirically-minded visitor to the exhibition wonders how Shakespeare can have contrived to get his plays written, so completely must his time have been taken up by posing for his likeness. A more authentic part of the collection is a series of portraits of prominent actors in the leading characters—all the Macbeths, all the Hamlets, all the Shylocks, and so on. The Juliets figuring in this exhibition include Julia Marlowe, Charlotte Cushman, Adelaide Neilson, Mary Anderson, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, and Ellen Terry.

Mr. Theodore Watts-Dunton left unfinished appreciations of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Christina Rossetti, and Philip Bourke Marston. They have been available for the memoir of him, which his friends, Mr. Thomas Hake and Mr. Arthur Compton Rickett, are writing, along with other papers and a whole mass of correspondence. It brings in a galaxy of great names—Tennyson, Borrow, Browning, Sir Richard Burton, Meredith, Matthew Arnold, and so on.

LAST OF THE EMDEN.

WRECK TOO FAR GONE FOR SALVAGE.

All hope has been abandoned of salving the German cruiser Emden, which was run ashore and destroyed at Cocos Island by the Australian cruiser Sydney in November, 1914. About a year ago, during comparatively calm weather, a British warship paid two visits to the wreck of the Emden on North Keeling Island, and removed some guns and other gear, part of which was handed over to the Commonwealth Government. One of the guns was afterwards on view at the Horse Guards Parade.

A statement by the Australian Minister of the Navy, the Hon. J. A. Jensen, relates that H.M.A.S. Protector visited the scene of the action in November last. It was found that the stern half of the Emden had completely disappeared, and very heavy surf was still breaking over what remained. The wreckage cast up on the beach gave evidence of terrific seas. The Protector waited a week at the island in hopes of getting a chance to board the Emden, but this was never for an instant possible. Information was obtained from local residents that since the British warship's second visit no one had been near the wreck but a steamer from Sydney with a party of kinematographists.

A RUNNING GAZETTEER.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.)

is the capital of the vilayet and sanjak of the same name. Near it are the ruins of ancient Nineveh. Mosul gave its name in the Middle Ages to the fabric known as mousseline or muslin. At that time it was a prosperous industrial city. Now it is a distributing centre for Western goods, and its chief native export is gall-nuts from the Kurdish mountains.

Mush.—Mush, known to Xenophon, an Armenian town of some 20,000 inhabitants, is situated on an eminence overlooking the plain of the Garni Chai. It is distant south from Erzerum about 150 miles by road. The road from Erzerum to Bitlis runs through Mush and across the Taurus mountains to the south. The capture of Mush, therefore, cuts all communication between north and south, and prevents all possibility of a junction of the Turkish forces. Mush has been a much troubled town, and has frequently figured in the records of Armenian massacres.

Trebizond.—Trebizond, towards which the Russians are advancing, is an important port on the Black Sea, 120 miles north-west of Erzerum. Its population numbers about 55,000. The province of Trebizond is the most densely populated of all Turkey's possessions in Asia, with the exceptions of the Lebanon and Beirut provinces. Trebizond, the old capital of Cappadocia, is mentioned by Milton in one of his gorgeous catalogues of places in the first book of "Paradise Lost," where he refers to the knights who once jousted there. The city, indeed, was one of the great schools of mediæval chivalry, and it is a German historian, Professor Fallmerayer, who tells us that it "became in popular romance and in the imaginations of the Italians and Provençals, one of the most famous empires of the East, and the rallying point of the youth and flower of Asia." Readers of "Ivanhoe" may remember that the Templar boasts to Rebecca that he had won his horse Zamor in single fight from the Soldan of Trebizond. Apart from its classical association with Xenophon and the Retreat of the Ten Thousand, Trebizond was one of the most notable cities of the East in the Middle Ages. The Hellenic Trapezus, or "Tableland," so named from the sloping table of ground on which it stands, at the time of the fourth crusade, fell into the hands of Alexius Comnenus, a scion of the Imperial Byzantine family, who founded there an empire that lasted for two and a half centuries, and included the greater part of the southern coast of the Black Sea. The Imperial family were renowned for their beauty, and princesses of Trebizond were sought in marriage by Byzantine emperors, Western nobles, and Mohammedan princes.

STOCK EXCHANGE FINANCE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.)

Manufacturing Companies.

1	Alby United Carbide Factories Ord.	[illegible]
1	Armstrong (A.) and Co. Ord.	[illegible]
1	British-American Tobacco 5 p.c. C.P.	[illegible]
1	Bradford Dyers' Assn. Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Calico Printers Association Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Coats (J. and P.) Ord.	[illegible]
10	Do. 20 p.c. Non-Cum. Pref. Ord.	[illegible]

Tramways.

Stk.	Anglo-Argentine Tramway 4 p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Deb. Stock	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 5 p.c. Deb. Stock	[illegible]
10	Clontarf and Hill of Howth Tramway	[illegible]
10	Cork Electric Ord.	[illegible]
10	Do. 5 p.c. Pref.	[illegible]
10	Do. 4 p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
10	Dublin and Blessington Steam	[illegible]
10	Dublin and Lucan Electric	[illegible]
10	Dublin United Tramways Ord.	[illegible]
10	Do. 6 p.c. Pref.	[illegible]
100	Do. 4 p.c. Mt. Deb. Red. 1939	[illegible]
100	Do. 5½ p.c. Mt. Deb.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 3½ p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
1	Provincial Tramways Ord.	[illegible]
10	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
10	Do. 5 p.c. 1st Deb.	[illegible]

Gas and Electric Lighting.

10	Alliance and Dublin Consumers Ord.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 4 p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
5	Edmundson's Elect. Corp. Ord.	[illegible]

Trading Companies.

5	Bagots, Hutton, and Co.	[illegible]
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Baker, Wardell 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Brooks, Thomas and Co. Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
5	Burke (E. and J.) Ord.	[illegible]
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
10	Do. 6 p.c. Irred. Deb.	[illegible]
1	Dockrell (Thos.), Sons, and Co. Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
5	Drummond (W.) and Sons 5 p.c. C.P.	[illegible]
1	Eastmans Ord.	[illegible]
1	Findlater 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Do. 4 p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
5	Heiton (T.) and Co. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
5	Hayes, Conyngham, and Robinson Deb.	[illegible]
1	Lipton Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 4 p.c. Deb. Stock	[illegible]
5	Maguire and Gatchell 6 p.c. C.P.	[illegible]
5	Mooney (J. G.) and Co.	[illegible]
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Mort. Deb.	[illegible]
7½	M'Kenzie (Thos.) and Sons	[illegible]
5	Millar (A.) and Co. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Moore (Hugh) and Alexanders Ord.	[illegible]
2.6	Powell and Moorer Ord.	[illegible]
5/-	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Parkes (J. C.) and Sons 5½ p.c. C. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Thom (Alex.) and Co. Ord.	[illegible]
50	Do. 6½ p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 4½ p.c. Deb.	[illegible]
5	Todd, Burns, M'Cormick Ord.	[illegible]
5	Do. do. 5 p.c. C. Pref.	[illegible]
10	Do. do. 4 p.c. Mort. Deb.	[illegible]
5	Watson (J.) and Co. Ord. (£4 paid)	[illegible]
5	Williams (H.) and Co. Ord.	[illegible]

Tyre, Cycle, and Motor Shares.

1	Components Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. Defd. Nos. 55,000-110,000	[illegible]
1	Dunlop Rubber Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
Stk.	Do. 5 p.c. (French Incomes)	[illegible]
1	Parent Tyre 8 p.c. Cum. Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. Deferred Nos. 1-499,962	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]

Miscellaneous.

15	Central Hotel Co. Ord.	[illegible]
5	Dolphin Hotel and Restaurant	[illegible]
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
10	Dublin Theatre Co. 4½ p.c. Debs.	[illegible]
10	Dublin Artisans' Dwellings Co.	[illegible]
6	Dublin Granaries Co.	[illegible]
10	Dublin (South) City Market Co.	[illegible]
4	Freeman's Journal (£5 paid)	[illegible]
5	Do. 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Hibernian Fire Insurance (4/- paid)	[illegible]
10	Green (Forster) and Co., Ltd.	[illegible]
5	Imperial Hotel, Ltd.	[illegible]
25	**Irish Civil Service	[illegible]
1	*Irish Times* 5½ p.c. Cum. 1st Pref.	[illegible]
1	Do. 6½ p.c. 2nd Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Liverpool Warehousing Co.	[illegible]
5	Lafayette 6 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]
1	Merchants' Warehousing Co.	[illegible]
1	Metropole Hotels (Ireland) Ord.	[illegible]
1	Do. 5 p.c. Cum. Pref.	[illegible]

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